**Trinity United Church**

**July 20, 2025**

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Land Acknowledgement**

*For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land. We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality and cultures of the peoples of Lake Simcoe Nottawasaga Treaty 18 land wherein our church resides. We are thankful to share in the special spirit of this place, rich in the energy of Mother Earth and the love of all creation.”*

***God welcomes each of us just as we are.***

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

*As we draw together in community, the Christ Candle is lit, as a reminder that in the light of Christ’s love, each one of you is welcome, just the way you are.*

**Introit: VU 579 “The Church Is Wherever God’s People” (2 verses)**

**Announcements and Opportunities @Trinity**

**Gathering Words**

God, we thank You for turning the earth toward the Sun.

**We thank You for summer.**

As the days and the light are long,

**So is the Love of God:**

   Endless

   **Fruitful**

   Full of possibility

   **Bursting with energy.**

As growing things are awake and progressing,

**So may we become awake**

To Your light and to Your love

   **Making progress**

   Seizing opportunities to grow

   **Readying for harvest.**

As our plot on the planet faces the sun, our star,

**So do we turn ourselves toward the Son**

Following the Way of Christ,

**Following the Way of Love,**

Growing to maturity,

**Spreading seeds of Good News to all.**

**Amen**

**Fran Pratt**

**Opening Prayer:**

Loving God, your gift of abundant life is like a basket of summer fruit – a delight to the

eye and a pleasure to the tongue.

**Your presence in our lives is like the bird song at dawn, a joy to the heart and a blessing to the spirit.**

Speak to us your words of life, that like Martha and Mary, we may invite you into our lives.

**In the wisdom of your love, may we find again the balance that leads to new life in the abundance of your Spirit.**

**In Jesus name we pray, Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: VU 472 “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts”**

**Prayer of Confession**

Help us, O God, to stand back from the routine happenings of our lives, and to reflect on them in your loving light.

**When we have been so caught up with achieving and doing, that we forget to take time to be quiet,**

God of the still small voice, open our hearing.

**When we have been so focused on reflecting and meditation that we forget to practice compassion and helping,**

God of Jesus, the healer and teacher, open our vision.

**When we are so concerned to speak out for the powerless that we forget our nearest and dearest,**

God who places us in community, open our awareness.

**When we are so concerned for those who are our loved ones and friends that we forget the despised and rejected,**

God who stands beside the exploited and abused, open our hearts.

…*a time for silent reflection*

**Words of Assurance**

This is the Good News in Jesus Christ:

God loves us more than we love ourselves and, in this love, we find new vision and hope to love others.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Hymn: VU 605 “Jesus, Teacher, Brave and Bold”**

**Sharing The Children’s Time**

***God Speaks to Us with Peace and Assurance***

**Amos 8:1-12**

**Psalm 52 (VUp.777 with choir refrain)**

**Luke 10:38-42**

**Hymn: VU 498 “God, Who Has Caused to Be Written”**

**Message:  “Looking Deeper” (Rev. Mary Elizabeth Piercy)**

**Hymn VU 588 “Many Are the Lightbeams”**

***God Supports and Lifts Us***

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer (spoken)**

**Acknowledging our Offerings in Support of Trinity United Church’s ministries**

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the many gifts of time, talent, money and prayer that allow this faith community to continue to share God’s love and hope in our world.

**Let us Pray:**

**Dear Lord, we offer our gifts to you in love, trusting you will bless them and us. May all that we offer become tangible expressions of your love at work in the world for Christ’s sake, Amen.**

**Closing Hymn VU 264 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

**Commissioning**

**May we go from this time of worship, in the certain knowledge that the love of God is ours to share, the peace of Christ is ours to extend and the light of the Holy Spirit is ours to offer.**

**Benediction**

May the grace of Christ attend you,

The love of God surround you,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit keep you, this day and forever more,

Blessings in your week,

Amen.

**Choral Blessing: VU 424 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”**

**Music to Inspire our Serving**

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Thought for the Week

*What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.*

*Jane Goodall*

*“Inspire Her Feature: Olivia R. Colombo". Interview with Briana Berger, www.codergirls.org. June 19, 2017.*