

St. Andrews, Gladwin Heights & Trinity Memorial The United Church of Canada

The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
August 17, 2025

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

++ Please rise in body or spirit
MV = More Voices; VU = Voices United

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING:

God be with you.
And also with you.

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

We worship on the unceded territory of the Halq'eméylem-speaking peoples.

CANDLE LIGHTING

SUNG RESPONSE: "Come O Holy Spirit, Come" VU 383 2x
Come, O Holy Spirit, come.
Come, almighty Spirit come.
Come, come, come.

WE WELCOME EACH OTHER

If you have a deep and abiding faith,
join us; you are called!
If you are seeking God,
join us; you are called!
If you have doubts and questions and an emptiness within,
join us; you are called!
If you cannot believe and trust in God,

join us; you are called!

You have come here at God's call, to worship, to praise, to learn, to reach out, perhaps to receive and accept the grace and the love of God this very day.

Let us worship together, all of us, just as we are!

Written by George Allan, gatheringworship.ca. Adapted.

WE CENTRE IN GOD:

When our days hurt like a wilderness,
empty of nourishment, deserted of hope,
you call to us with your Spirit, comforting and sustaining us.
If all around us shadows loom,
and our resolve is tested, our faith challenged,
**you bless us with your presence,
strengthening our hearts each day.**
Whenever our troubles appear unyielding,
the pain unrelenting in our world,
you abide, unyielding, by our side;
your love is unrelenting in our lives.
For this we thank you, Gracious God, as we come to worship.
Amen.

Written by Gill Le Fevre, gatheringworship.ca.

++HYMN: MV 12 – "Come Touch Our Hearts"

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD:

God of justice and mercy,
God of vision and purpose,
**sometimes we are overwhelmed
by the gap between your promises
and our present reality.**
It is hard to live as hopeful people,
showing mercy and restraint as we work for justice,
when human evil and natural misfortune strike.
We ask for a sign of hope.

[Silent Prayer]

AND WE ARE ACCEPTED:

We have not attained the full promises of God,
but we look to Jesus, our model, our teacher,

pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who answered evil with love and passionate
and showed us the way through his death and life.

The Spirit empowers us to follow him.

WE RESPOND: MV 156 – “Dance with the Spirit”

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE: Kate Jordan

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Psalms 82 [VU 799, alternate refrain]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

++HYMN: “Give Thanks for Life”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE

PASSING THE PEACE:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER *First Nations Version of the New Testament*
[Unison]

O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day –
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.

The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.
Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good
road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.
Aho! May it be so!

MISSION AND SERVICE STORIES

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

Let us present our offering to the work of God.

++OFFERTORY: MV 185 – “Ev’ry Day is a Day of Thanksgiving”

The offering is brought forward.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

You are wisdom in a world that has lost its way.

Take our gifts and use them.

You are life in a world in love with death.

Take our hearts and love them.

You are purpose in a searching world.

Take our lives, and bless them.

++HYMN: VU 713 – “I See a New Heaven”

WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD

++COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

EXTROIT: MV 213

Take up his song of faith and go into the world.

Take up his song of faith in ev’ry moment

In ev’ry moment of the journey, we’re laying down our lives;

Lay them down, in faith, lay them down,

And take up his song.

END OF WORSHIP

BEGINNING OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY