



Date: September 07, 2025

Worship Leaders: Worship Committee

Musician: Linda Kneeland

Audio/Visual:

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome Back & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- *****Office Hours***** Regular hours start Monday September 08. Monday Wednesday ~ Friday 9 am – Noon
- **It's September...** meaning the small groups will start again. If you haven't confirmed your start date with the office, please do so ASAP. Thanks
- **LUV2READ ~** September 25 at 7pm. Please enter the church through the NW doors. First Book "Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast" by John Vaillant Copies of this book are now available at the public library.
- **Printed Announcements** are available in the Narthex.

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Gathering Hymn *I'm Gonna Live so God can use me. VU 575*

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: African-American spiritual. Arrangement: © 1987 Estate of Wendell Whalum, c/o Mrs. Clarie G. Whalum, 2439 Greenwood Circle, East Point, GA 30344, USA. Used by permission. Words: Public Domain. Arrangement: Estate of Wendell Whalum, c/o Mrs. Clarie G. Whalum N/A

Call to Worship

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

In a world of war

We search for peace.

In a world of confusion

We searched for calm.

In a world of pain

We search for healing

In a world of isolation

we search for communion.

Communion with each other

and communion with God

Let us search together

and let us worship our God

Richard Bott, Vancouver, B. C.

Lighting the Christ Candle

In a time of change and confusion,

we need a source of unwavering light.

In a time of transition and change,

we need a light to show us the way.

May the light of Christ be this light for everyone of us.

May it shine in our hearts all of our days.

Opening Prayer

Creator God, we come today, grateful for a summer together: A summer that has gone by too soon. A summer that began with promise but, for some here and across the country, was filled with difficulty, disaster, challenges, and loss. We come here today, together in worship, to give thanks for having endured a great deal together. We are present here today as brothers, sisters, and siblings in the Body of Christ. We are stronger because of our challenges, wiser for our scars, and more compassionate for our losses. For this we give thanks. Amen

Deborah Ambridge Fisher, Forest Hill you. U.C., Fredericton, N.B.

Hymn *Take my life and let it be* VU #506

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal 1874. Music: Unknown. Descant: © 1980 enThusia Enterprises, 146 Fincham Ave., Markham, ON L3P 4A9.
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Prayer of Confession (from psalm 139)

You know us through and through, O God.

In the good times when we find joy and achieve what we want to achieve, you are smiling with us.

You do not desert us when that hard times come.

In the valley of despair, in the gloom of failure, you are a comforting presence.

You challenge us to know and to use the gifts you have given us.

When we sell ourselves short or deny or ability, you call us to think again.

We are awed by your creative presence, humbled by the wonder of all you have given us.

You encourage us to live responsibly in your world, O God, and keep it good for the generations to come.

(a time of silent reflection)

Words of assurance

"Where can we go from your spirit, O God, where can we escape from your presence?" asks the writer of Psalm 139

God's presence is eternally with us and, in that presence, we have nothing to fear. Thanks be to God. Amen.

David sparks, Summerland, B.C.

Prayer of Illumination

We are going to sing *Open My Eyes* VU 371

Words, Music: Clara H. Scott 1895. Public Domain. N/A

Scripture Readings: Mary-Lou Manson

- *Jeremiah 18: 1-11*
- *Psalm 139: 1-6 13-18*
- *Luke: 14 25-33*

***Hymn *Jesus bids us shine* VU 585 ~**

Words: Susan Warner 1868. Music: Edwin O. Excell. Public Domain. N/A

Congregational Theme/Story Time Sue Stratulate

Message Mary-Lou Manson

Hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me. VU 567

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Minute for Mission Eileen Scheerschmidt

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation for Offering

***Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* VU#541**

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

Here are our gifts, O god.

As the saints did before us, so we live by the faith that is ours as fully as we can.

And we share the gifts you have given us, for the good of all, for the good of all creation.

Receive these gifts, bless them, use them and use us to be your presence everywhere. We pray in Jesus name. Amen

Hymn *May the God of Hope Go With Us. VU 424

Words: Joseph Medlicott Scriven. Music: Charles Crozat Converse. Public Domain. N/A

***Commissioning and Benediction**

Let us go from our time of worship together, renewed and restored in the light of Christ. May the sights and sounds of the Creator's work fill us with the new understanding that we are always surrounded and encircled by the Creator's presence. Seeking the source of compassion and care, go out into the world refreshed in the spirit and energized by God's call to share comfort and hope. Reminded that all good that surrounds us is sent from a source emboldened by the Spirit of the living Christ to, go forth to be God's presence in the world. Now may the love of God surround you, the grace of the Holy Spirit enfold you, and the work of Jesus, our friend, encompass you this day and always.

Jim McKean, Severn Shores U.C., Severn, Ont.

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude