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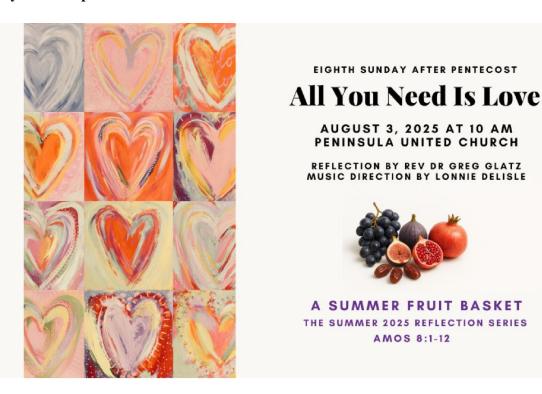
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# **Sunday Postscript**



# Watch the service | Watch the reflection

# **Text**

Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV)

# **Key Verses**

v 15 And Jesus said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

# **Reflection Questions**

#### What's your "n+1"?

Is there something in your life that you feel like you always need "just one more" of (bikes, gadgets, money, success. etc.)?

Why do you think that desire feels so compelling?

## What does abundance mean to you?

How has your definition of a "rich" or "abundant" life changed over time — and what does it look like today?

#### "One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

What are some ways we can resist the cultural pull toward "have-more-itis" (Greek = *pleonexia*) and re-center our lives around relationships?

# Have you ever "built bigger barns"?

Can you recall a time you prioritized possessions or security over connection or generosity? What did you learn from that experience?

#### What would it look like to build people, not barns?

How can you (practically and personally) use what you have — money, time, skills, resources — to invest in others and build community?

# **Prayer Prompts**

#### Letting go of "n+1"

God, reveal to me the places in my life where "just one more" has taken root — whether it's possessions, accomplishments, or approval.

Help me to trust that what I have, and who I am, is enough in you.

#### Redefining abundance

God of abundance, reshape my understanding of a rich life.

Help me see that true wealth is not in things, but in righteousness, joy, vitality, and peace.

Teach me to value what truly matters.

## Resisting the pull of possessions

Gracious God, I confess the times I've measured my life by how much I have.

Guard my heart from greed ("have-more-itis" / pleonexia), and re-center me in gratitude, generosity, and trust in you.

#### Rebuilding priorities

Loving God, show me where I've built "bigger barns" — holding tightly to what I could have shared. Give me the courage to open my hands and my heart, so I can prioritize people over possessions.

#### Investing in people

God, you have entrusted me with resources, relationships, and opportunities.

Help me to use all that I have to build up others, strengthen the community, and reflect your steadfast love in the world.

## We'd like to hear from you!

Did some part of this postscript speak to you? Send an email to minister@peninsulaunited.com.

## **Midweek Reflection Discussion Groups**

Peninsula United Church offers small groups to enjoy a relaxed and thoughtful conversation inspired by Sunday's reflection (sermon). The small groups use the reflection questions and prayer prompts in this newsletter to explore our insights and responses, and encourage one another in applying them to daily life. Bring a friend! Haven't watched the service yet? No problem—everyone is welcome!

Join us on Wednesdays at 1:30 PM at 1685 152A St., Surrey (Community Room). RSVP appreciated. Please contact Marilyn at marilynhahnbc@gmail.com, and she will save you a seat.

A second group is starting this week (also on Wednesday afternoons). Please contact Jean Kromm (email: <a href="mailto:bjgekromm@shaw.ca">bjgekromm@shaw.ca</a> or phone: 604-542-0304) for details.



As the second day of the 45th General Council opens on Friday, August 8, The United Church of Canada will offer **an apology to 2S and LGBTQIA+ communities** in a special live-streamed and in-person worship service.

When: Friday, Aug 8, 2025 at 08:00 AM

The service will be available on Zoom, with live interpretation in English and French. Register here.

The service will also be available on <u>YouTube</u> (although it is unclear if it will be live-streamed on YouTube or uploaded to the channel after the service).

The United Church of Canada was the first denomination in Canada to affirm the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons into the life of the church. While the 1988 decision was significant, there are still many painful stories of exclusion from before 1988 that continue into the present.

By formally apologizing, the United Church reaffirms its commitment to radical hospitality and full inclusion of 2S and LGBTQIA+ people in all aspects of church life, including leadership, worship, and governance, strengthening the church's witness to justice and love in action. The road has not been smooth, and the church has not always accepted 2S and LGBTQIA+ people. The living apology is one way to acknowledge the many shortcomings and the harm the church has caused, while also continuing to build toward a world of radical love and affirming people of all identities.

Click here for more info on the apology.

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well." (Psalm 139:14)

## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MINISTER AND STAFF

Office Hours: The church is open for walk-in appointments from 9 AM-2 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays. For general inquiries, call the office at 604-531-2979 or email at admin@peninsulaunited.com

- Rev. Dr. Greg Glatz, Coordinating Minister: minister@peninsulaunited.com
- Lonnie Delisle, Music Director: <a href="mailto:music@peninsulaunited.com">music@peninsulaunited.com</a>
- Sonia Sandhu, Operations Manager: <u>operations@peninsulaunited.com</u>
- Elpida Howard, Office Administrator: office@peninsulaunited.com
- Sheri Kathrein, Financial Administrator: accounting@peninsulaunited.com
- Liz Wilson, Facilities Caretaker: <a href="mailto:caretaker@peninsulaunited.com">caretaker@peninsulaunited.com</a>

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