



to worship

St. Paul's United Church

(Kindersley, Saskatchewan)

February 11th, 2024

Worship Leader: Clayton Braybrook

Musician: Helen Barclay

The Leader will read the parts in regular type.

*Please join in the parts in **bold type**.*

WELCOME TO THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH:

Life of the Church Community (Announcements)
Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we light the Christ Candle...we lean into all that the Spirit is.

(pause)

We set our intentions to following the Christ, who leads with compassion and deep peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come with joy and celebration...

draw near, for the world is about to turn.

Come, open to the Light and to transformation.

Come and worship.

OPENING PRAYER:

Holy One, you are in the midst of us, you are among us in hope, peace, joy and love. Stir in us a desire to be followers of the way. Serving your people, with all we are, all we do and all we shall be. Lift us up and set us on a path of Wonder and Joy.

AMEN

WE SING: "Like a Healing Stream" (MV# 144)

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

In the name of the Peace Maker and Light of the world, share peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

As we gather ourselves together once again, let us prepare to continue our worship as we join our hearts together and pray.

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION:

Loving God, our world seems to be in chaos.

We feel helpless and even hopeless.

When life gets too hard, hold us and then lift us up.

Remind us that you are always present, and to keep sharing love, kindness and compassion.

We are not alone, slip into our hearts and bring us joy.

Amen

WE SING: "Draw the Circle Wide" (MV# 145)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S VOICE

Loving God, you speak to us in so many ways.
Speak to us now through the reading of the scriptures.

FOCUS SCRIPTURE: Mark 9: 2-9

JESUS TRANSFORMED:

² Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain where they were alone. He was transformed in front of them, ³ and his clothes were amazingly bright, brighter than if they had been bleached white. ⁴ Elijah and Moses appeared and were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, “Rabbi, it’s good that we’re here. Let’s make three shrines—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶ He said this because he didn’t know how to respond, for the three of them were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice spoke from the cloud, “This is my Son, whom I dearly love. Listen to him!” ⁸ Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Human One had risen from the dead. This is the trustworthy witness of God’s faithful people through the ages,

The divine word to us today. Amen.

SERMON – Rev. Linda Hunter

WE SING: “We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”
(VU# 104)

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

As partners with our Creator, we give what we can that all may have enough. We will now dedicate our offerings.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Creator God, bless these gifts given today. Some given through PAR, some by email or direct deposit. Bless also the gifts we give at other times.

Use all that we give, as you will, for your work of love.

Amen.

When we pray together in community, the concerns of each of us, spoken or unspoken, are shared by all of us. We continue our response to God by joining our hearts together in prayer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Holy Wisdom, we rejoice in the signs of your Majesty in creation and the unfolding cosmos. From the stardust of the galaxies to the plankton of the sea, from the oasis in the desert to the crowded parks and pathways, all Creation is infused with your power.

Make us ever mindful of your love, that infuses all creation. Open our whole bodies that we might listen and hear Creation’s knowledge. Accept our thankful, grateful hearts, and expand our appreciation to embrace the un-embraceable.

God of Mercy, we are mindful of the trouble around our world....

There is plenty to eat, yet there are so many hungry people – teach us to share.

There is a desire for peace, yet some children have only known war – teach us to care.

We have the knowledge needed to protect for our environment, yet some still choose comfort and ease – teach us to sacrifice.

There is so much to do, may we begin, right where we are, one day at a time, one positive action for each moment.

We pray for those who live with unrest, instability, and fear. We pray for the peace-builders who are actively resisting the dehumanizing forces of violence.

We remember those in special need in our own community and families who we name at this time.

SILENCE

Extend the balm of your healing power, we pray. Life-giver, we pray that your wisdom, revealed in all your works, may inspire us to live in right relation with Earth - our Mother, all her creatures, and the whole human family. May the harmony of creation be a model for our relationships with our neighbours near and far, teaching us that we are not self-sufficient, but only thrive through a constant exchange of energy and elements, love and language in the web of life.

O Great Lover of our Souls, we give thanks for the unique insights of the many expressions of faith and spiritual practice in the human family.

Wherever there has been hatred, oppression, and exploitation, bring truth-telling, reconciliation, and respectful community. Help us always to pray and act in ways that are in harmony with divine wisdom and to use our talents and resources to serve the good of all.

We come to you, to see who we are, and to catch a vision of whom we are to become. Work in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow.

Hear now our hearts yearnings as we pray together in the light of the words of Jesus, each in the language of their heart....

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

WE SING: "Jesus Bids Us Shine" (VU# 585)

WE GO INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

SENDING FORTH:

Go into the world with loving hearts and shine.

Journey humbly with all creatures and be open to the transforming love of God.

Amen