



## **Carlisle/Kilbride United Church**

**August 10, 2025**

### **"Stories and Songs Sunday"**

led by members of the pastoral charge

**Carlisle 10am**

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*Those who wish to do so are invited to stand for the Hymns and the Sending Forth/Benediction. Likewise, those who wish to do so are invited to respond aloud where indicated by **bold print**.*

### **Welcome:**

A warm welcome is extended to all,  
especially those who may be joining us for the first time.  
Your presence enriches this gathering and contributes to  
the creative evolution of community.

Thanks for the gift of you!

*(Central United, Moncton, NB)*

### **Acknowledgement of the Land:**



As we gather in the name of Christ, we acknowledge that our sacred space is on territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, Attawandaron (Neutral) Nation, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. This is land they have cared for and considered sacred for centuries. With thankfulness and respect for their stewardship, may we honour one another and honour life itself.

### **The Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)**

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle:**

The light of Christ is in our midst.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Gathering Song:** MV 40 – Never Ending Joy

Dan Damon's uplifting hymn was published in the early 2000s by Hope Publishing, where Damon (b. 1955) is Associate Editor of Hymnody. He is also an actively performing jazz pianist, an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church in the San Francisco Bay area, and of course a hymnist who has several single-author collections in print. Thank you to the musicians at Golden Ears United for their effervescent performance!

MV 40 Never Ending Joy

*Never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy,  
never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy.*

- 1 God of every tribe, every language, God of every river and sea,  
God of every mountain and island, you bring joy to me. R
- 2 God of every hill, every valley, God of every leaf, every tree.  
God of every cloud, every raindrop, you bring joy to me. R
- 3 God of every song, every story, God of every captive set free,  
God of every dance, every footstep, you bring joy to me. R

**Call to Worship:** ("Singing Your Song Call to Worship" by Carol Penner,  
[www.leadinginworship.com](http://www.leadinginworship.com))

Thank you God for your song, which we are invited to sing.

Thank you for all the parts you've made for the song;

soprano, alto, tenor, bass.

Thank you for the children's part and the senior's part,

thank you for the youth part and the part for middle agers,

thank you for the crazy baby descant

that we all love to hear each Sunday morning.

We are singing your song today:

help us to sing true and clear,

listening for your voice in our ears,

hearing you in the voices all around us.

Let us continue together in prayer:

**Opening Prayer:** (*Celebrate God's Presence*, p. 29)

**O Most Blessed One,**

**as we enter into the life of your Spirit,**

**teach our hearts to be psalms,**

**singing forth your praise;**

**teach our minds to be proverbs,**

**shining forth your wisdom;**

**and teach our lives to be parables,**

**showing forth your glory**

**in every gesture and deed. Amen.**

**Centring Hymn:** MV 97 – Listen, God Is Calling (several times)

Featuring energetic piano and percussion accompaniment, this track can be found on the 2011 album *One in Christ: Hymns of the Month* released by Concordia Publishing House. The hymn itself is a traditional Tanzanian folk song translated by Howard

Olson (1922-2010), a longtime missionary and teacher in Africa who compiled a collection of African songs in *Set Free*, many of which were folk tunes to which Christian Swahili texts were later added. Olson noted that these pieces were sung with "uninhibited improvisation" . . . although we'll be singing just the refrain!

Gr. 5 - Listen, God Is Calling

(Listen) Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.

**Prayer:** "Biblical Congregational Prayer" (Carol Penner, [www.livinginworship.com](http://www.livinginworship.com))

We give thanks today, God of great gifts, for the Bible.

Thank you for these Bibles in our hands, the Bibles in our homes  
the free access to holy scripture that we enjoy in this country.

Thank you for the many faithful people  
who delivered this Bible into our hands today;

the people who wrote it,

the people who copied it out,

the people who died protecting it,

the people who translated it,

the people who interpreted it,

century after century.

Thank you for the people who shared it with us;

family members, Sunday school teachers, preachers.

Thank you that we can read it together and learn from it.

Open this book for us.

Everyone here has a different relationship with the Bible.

Some people love it,

some people think they should love it, but don't,

some people find it hard to read,

other people know great swaths of it by heart.

Give our community a love for scripture,

a thirst for you, that we can quench in this book.

We ask this for everyone in our congregation.

And having read it, help us live it!

Give us the courage to do what we've learned

and to follow the path of Jesus.

This morning we pray for people of all faiths

who read each other's holy books,

seeking understanding and ways to dialogue

with other cultures and other religions.

Thank you for the way religion can be a bridge  
that connects us rather than a wall that divides us.  
We think especially today of Jerusalem,  
where Muslims, Christians and Jews look for peace,  
each with their own holy books in their hands.  
Raise up peacemakers who can speak to all three traditions,  
and forge a peace that everyone can live with.

Finally, we pray that all we say and all we do  
could give glory to you, the Living Word,  
first and last, ever and always. Amen.

**Sung Response:** VU 343 – I Love to Tell the Story (v. 1)

*Please use the bulletin for this hymn's lyrics, as subsequent verses come from a different source.*

**This text bears striking similarities to "Tell Me the Old, Old Story," since in 1866 Kate Hankey wrote the long poem that serves as the basis of both hymns. William G. Fischer later set the text to music, adding a refrain and publishing the completed hymn in *Joyful Songs* (1869). The first and last verses are performed by American country music singer-songwriter Alan Jackson on Gaither Music TV.**

[Alan Jackson - I Love To Tell The Story \(Live\)](#)

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.  
*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**Favourite Scripture #1:** Luke 18:1-17 (Good News Bible) (shared by Arlene Munro)

*The Parable of the Widow and the Judge*

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to teach them that they should always pray and never become discouraged. <sup>2</sup>"In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. <sup>3</sup>And there was a widow in that same town who kept coming to him and pleading for her rights, saying, 'Help me against my opponent!' <sup>4</sup>For a long time the judge refused to act, but at last he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or respect people, <sup>5</sup>yet because of all the trouble this widow is giving me, I will see to it that she gets her rights. If I don't, she will keep on coming and finally wear me out!'"

<sup>6</sup>And the Lord continued, "Listen to what that corrupt judge said. <sup>7</sup>Now, will God not judge in favour of his own people who cry to him day and night for help? Will he be slow to help them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will judge in their favour and do it quickly. But will the Son of Man find faith on earth when he comes?"

### *The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector*

<sup>9</sup>Jesus also told this parable to people who were sure of their own goodness and despised everybody else. <sup>10</sup>"Once there were two men who went up to the Temple to pray: one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood apart by himself and prayed, 'I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, dishonest, or an adulterer, like everybody else. I thank you that I am not like that tax collector over there. <sup>12</sup>I fast two days a week, and I give you one tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector stood at a distance and would not even raise his face to heaven, but beat on his breast and said, 'God, have pity on me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you," said Jesus, "the tax collector, and not the Pharisee, was in the right with God when he went home. For those who make themselves great will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be made great."

### *Jesus Blesses Little Children*

<sup>15</sup>Some people brought their babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. The disciples saw them and scolded them for doing so, <sup>16</sup>but Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup>Remember this! Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

**Hymn Choice #1:** VU 110 – First-born of Mary (repeat several times) (shared by Arlene Munro)

This energetic, rhythmic hymn was composed by John L. Bell in 1998 and is performed by the Wild Goose Worship Group on the 1999 album *There Is One Among Us: Shorter Songs for Worship by John L. Bell*. The recording includes spoken scriptural examples of Jesus as a "provocative preacher" who "inspires and disarms and confuses."

#### First Born of Mary

First-born of Mary, provocative preacher,  
itinerant teacher, outsider's choice;  
Jesus inspires and disarms and confuses  
whoever he chooses to hear his voice.

**Hymn Choice #1:** MV 44 – Shadow and Substance (shared by Arlene Munro)

Written in 1989, this hymn can be found on composer Daniel Charles Damon's 2005 album *Like a Child: Songs and Hymns*. You can certainly hear evidence of Damon's extensive jazz performance experience in the accompaniment! This hymnist is represented by an impressive 13 works in *More Voices* alone, including today's Gathering Song and MV 161 "I Have Called You by Your Name."

#### Shadow and Substance

1     Shadow and substance, wonder and mystery,  
      spellbinding spinner of atoms and earth;  
      soul of the cosmos, person and energy,  
      source of our being, we sing of your worth.

- 2 We are your image, formed in community;  
sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.  
You gave us colour, custom and history;  
teach us to honour what others receive.
- 3 Naming the nameless Spirit of unity,  
scanning the heavens for signs of your care;  
God of the ages, give us humility;  
guide us to mystical union in prayer.

**Sung Response:** I Love to Tell the Story (v. 2)

[Alan Jackson - I Love To Tell The Story \(Live\)](#)

- 2 I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story; it did so much for me,  
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.  
*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**Favourite Scripture #2:** Luke 19:1-10 (NIV) (shared by Frances Quarrington)

*Zacchaeus the Tax Collector*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup>A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup>He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

<sup>5</sup>When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

<sup>7</sup>All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

<sup>8</sup>But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

<sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

**Hymn Choice #2:** VU 703 – In the Bulb There Is a Flower (shared by Frances Quarrington)

Earlier this year, Scottish-Canadian tenor John McDermott shared a new video featuring springtime photographs while he sings Natalie Sleeth's beloved 1986 hymn



accompanied by Eric Robertson on piano. McDermott gained popularity with his recording of "Danny Boy" in 1992, after which he decided to pursue a professional career in music and starting touring, first in Canada and then internationally.

John McDermott - In The Bulb There is a Flower - Easter 2025

- 1 In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
- 2 There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
- 3 In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

**Sung Response:** I Love to Tell the Story (v. 3)

Alan Jackson - I Love To Tell The Story (Live)

- 3 I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.  
*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**Favourite Scripture #3:** Psalm 23 (NIV) (shared by Margriet Sinclair)

*A psalm of David.*

- <sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
<sup>3</sup>he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Hymn Choice #3:** VU 232 – Joy, Joyful We Adore You (shared by Margriet Sinclair)  
This energetic arrangement by Mack Wilberg delivers a bright, brassy introduction to Beethoven's beloved "Ode to Joy" melody. The hymn is sung by the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square, an ensemble based out of Salt Lake City, Utah, that was founded in 1847 and boasts 360 members. The choir actually predates the hymn's lyrics, which were composed in 1907 by Princeton professor of English literature and Presbyterian clergyman Henry van Dyke.  
[Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee | The Tabernacle Choir](#)

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore you,  
God of glory, life and love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All your works with joy surround you,  
earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
sound their praise eternally.
- 3 You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing,  
let your light upon us shine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.
- 4 Mortals join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began;



God's own love is reigning o'er us,  
joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.

**Sung Response:** I Love to Tell the Story (v. 4)

[Alan Jackson - I Love To Tell The Story \(Live\)](#)

4 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.  
*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**Favourite Scripture #4:** Psalm 100 (NIV) (shared by Carolyn Eaton)

*A psalm. For giving grateful praise.*

<sup>1</sup>Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.

<sup>5</sup>For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

**Favourite Scripture #4:** Matthew 4:23-25, 5:1-17 (NIV) (shared by Carolyn Eaton)

*Jesus Heals the Sick*

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup>News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

*Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount*

<sup>1</sup>Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup>and he began to teach them.

## *The Beatitudes*

He said:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## *Salt and Light*

<sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

## *The Fulfillment of the Law*

<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

**Hymn Choice #4:** VU 266 – Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (shared by Carolyn Eaton)

The vocal trio Life in 3D performs an original arrangement by Kurt Bestor (conductor), accompanied by orchestra and bagpipers. The lyrics were penned in 1772 by English Anglican clergyman, poet, and former slave trader John Newton as he reflected on how a life of sin could be transformed into a life of goodness and faith through God's grace.

[Amazing Grace | Hymn Music Video | The Good and the Beautiful](#)

that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me,  
this word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

**Offering Prayer:** "Telling Your Story Offering Prayer" (Carol Penner, [livinginworship.com](http://livinginworship.com))

God, with the action of this offering we tell your story:  
how you have dealt generously with us,  
how you have met our needs,  
how you have heard our prayers,  
how your goodness is from everlasting to everlasting.  
Bless these offerings which are given in the name of Christ, Amen.

**Offertory:** MV 191 – What Can I Do?

From the 2002 album *Wing and a Prayer*, this track is performed by Paul Rumbolt, co-composer of the hymn alongside Michele McCarthy.

[What Can I Do?](#)

What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

**Invitation to Prayer:** (*Celebrate God's Presence*, p. 52)

There is no joy that does not come from God's hand.  
There is no pain that does not echo in God's heart.  
Let us bring our thanksgivings and concerns  
before God in prayer.

## **Prayers of the People**

**Lord's Prayer:** "#7: Holy!" (*The Lord's Prayer – Ten Paraphrases*, Steve Garnaas-Holmes, [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net))

**O Infinite, Intimate One, Source of our being,  
whose presence is heaven,  
all Creation sings of you, "Holy!"  
May your Realm unfold among us;  
may our only story be the story of your grace,  
this world blossoming out of your delight.  
Give us the breath of life, one breath at a time.  
Accept our brokenness;  
give us acceptance of others who are broken.  
Lead us beyond our desires  
and save us from cooperating with evil.  
For the world is within you;  
all power is from you,  
and all glory is about you,  
in eternity, which is in the present moment. Amen.**

**Hymn:** VU 424 – May the God of Hope Go with Us

**This American praise band performs a traditional Argentinian tune whose original Spanish lyrics were translated into English by Alvin Schutmaat in 1984. The keyboardist has a marimba sound selected, in case you are wondering what you are hearing!**

**May The God of Hope Go With Us Every Day**

- 1     May the god of hope go with us every day,  
      filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
      May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
      bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
          *Praying, let us work for peace,  
          singing, share our joy with all,  
          working for a world that's new,  
          faithful when we hear Christ's call.*
- 2     May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
      freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.

May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
to a world restored, to human life renewed. R

**Sending Forth:** (*Celebrate God's Presence*, 73)

Go and join Christ in the world,  
healing and speaking words of freedom,  
witnessing to the sacred in the midst of life.

**Blessing:** (John Birch, [www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com))

The peace of God be in your heart  
The grace of God be in your words  
The love of God be in your hands  
The joy of God be in your soul  
and in the song that your life sings.

**Online Postlude:** Down to the River to Pray

While the exact origins of this folk song are uncertain, the earliest known version appears in the 1867 collection *Slave Songs of the United States* with the title "The Good Old Way." The most famous recording to date is probably Alison Krauss' featured in the 2000 film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Emmett Franz and Katie Peterson of the American family band The Petersens created this beautiful new arrangement, filmed at the Ozark Mill at Finley Farms in Ozark, Missouri. It appears on their 2022 album *My Ozark Mountain Home*.

[Down to the River to Pray - The Petersens \(LIVE\)](#)