

**The United Church of Canada
Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge
November 16, 2025**



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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 & Acknowledgement of the Land:

We welcome all God's people – whatever you believe or do not believe, whatever you have done or left undone, whoever you are and whomever you love. Because we are the church of Jesus Christ and Jesus taught us to "Love God and Love One Another" without exception.

As we worship God, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of

(Kilbride: the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, Neutral, Anishinaabe, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),

(Carlisle: the Neutral, Haudenosaunee, Anishinabek, and Mississaugas of the Credit

First Nation),

who continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work to right the wrongs of the past and present.

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

It is far better to light a candle, than curse the darkness. (William L. Watkins, *The Supreme Conquest*, 1907)

The Light of Christ is in our midst.

Gathering

Centring Music: MV 7 – Gather Us In (x2)

Accompanied by Susan Reininger on piano, Rev. Lefneski and Debbie Roy from Emmanuel United in Cowansville, Québec, sing David Hann's 2005 hymn.

Gather Us In - Hymn

Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in,
ground us, ground us in you.

Invitation to Worship:

From the corners of this community,
from the confusion of life,
from the loneliness of our hearts,

Gather us, O God.

To feed our minds,
to fire our imaginations,
to free our hearts,

Gather us, O God. (*Burgess & Polhill/e&a*)

Prayer of Approach:

We pray:

**God of surprises,
startle us with truth we do not see,
amaze us with your power and grace,
beckon us, and lead us
far above restricted hope and narrow faith.
May it be so. Amen.**

Hymn: VU 409 – Morning Has Broken

Words: Eleanor Farjeon 1931; Music: Gaelic melody

British singer-songwriter Cat Stevens, also known as Yusuf, performed his arrangement of this beloved hymn on his *Teaser and the Firecat* album in 1971, remastered in 2021. The original piece was published in 1931 in the second edition of the hymnal *Songs of Praise*, whose editors, seeing a need for a hymn giving thanks for each day, approached English poet and children's author Eleanor Farjeon about composing a poem for the Scottish tune BUNESSAN.

Yusuf / Cat Stevens – Morning Has Broken (Official Lyric Video)

- 1 Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.
- 3 Ours is the sunlight!
Ours is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!

Prayer for Grace:

Give me a candle of the Spirit, O God,
as I go down into the depths of my being.
Show me the hidden things,
the creatures of my dreams,
the storehouse of forgotten memories and hurts.

**Take me down to the spring of my life
and tell me my nature
and my name.**

**Give me freedom to grow, so that I may become that self,
the seed of which you planted in me at my making. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace:

Take comfort in the assurance
that even those things that are hidden from memory,
or are too deep for our words,
are not beyond God's forgiving love.
God, who knows us completely,
bestows pardon and peace.

Sung Response: MV 77 – Be Still and Know (2x)

**These words from Psalm 46:1 are set to music by John Bell and sung in a gentle round
by musicians of Peninsula United Church.**

[Be Still And Know-MV77 - YouTube](#)

Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.

Prayer for Illumination:

Eternal God,
in the reading of the scripture, may your Word be heard;
in the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known;
and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 65:17-25, *New heavens and a new earth*

65:17 For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

65:18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight.

65:19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress.

65:20 No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime, for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

65:21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

65:22 They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat, for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

65:23 They shall not labour in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD – and their descendants as well.

65:24 Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent – its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19, *Suffering for Jesus' sake*

21:5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said,

21:6 "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

21:7 They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"

21:8 And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

21:9 "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."

21:10 Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;

21:11 there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

21:12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.

21:13 This will give you an opportunity to testify.

21:14 So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance;

21:15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.

21:16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.

21:17 You will be hated by all because of my name.

21:18 But not a hair of your head will perish.

21:19 By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Response: May God bless to our understanding these words from our Holy Scripture.

Reflection

Hymn: VU 578 – As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

Words: Ruth Duck 1983; Music: Marty Haugen

Although most of the recordings I came across utilize the BEACH SPRING tune (e.g. from "Come and Find the Quiet Centre"), this one, like in *Voices United*, sets Ruth

Duck's words to JOYOUS LIGHT by Marty Haugen. Haugen's 1987 tune is performed by the Knox United Church Calgary Choir.

As a Fire Is Meant For Burning

- 1 As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.
- 2 We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit,
we would live to God's delight.
- 3 As a green bud in the springtime
is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness
mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.

Offering Prayer

Offertory: VU 218 – We Praise You, O God (v. 1)

Words: Julia Cory 1902 alt; Music: Netherlands melody 1626, harm. Eduard Kremser 1877, desc. Scott Withrow 1980

Conducted by their Music Director Tom Trenney, the choir, congregation, and musicians of First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska perform this hymn in an arrangement by Carolyn Jennings.

We Praise you, O God (KREMSER)

- 1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;

we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Prayers of the People & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: In Every Age (insert for Kilbride)

We last sang this beautiful hymn by Janet Sullivan Whitaker back in June and we look forward to renewing it this week. In this live recording it is performed by the Sunday 7pm Choir and Friends at St. Francis de Sales Church in Ajax, Ontario.

In Every Age | Janet Sullivan Whitaker | Psalm 90 | Refuge | Choir w/Lyrics | Sunday 7pm Choir

- 1 Long before the mountains came to be
and the land and sea and stars of the night,
through the endless seasons of all time,
you have always been,
you will always be.
In ev'ry age, O God, you have been our refuge.
In ev'ry age, O God, you have been our hope.

- 2 Destiny is cast, and at your silent word
we return to dust and scatter to the wind.
A thousand years are like a single moment gone,
as the light that fades
at the end of day. R

- 3 Teach us to make use of the time we have.
Teach us to be patient even as we wait.
Teach us to embrace our ev'ry joy and pain.
To sleep peacefully,
and to rise up strong. R (x2)

You have been our refuge.
You have been our hope.

Commissioning

The God we worship is never confined to this holy place.
So go and travel with the God
who is found in ordinary and surprising places.
May the quality of our lives be our benediction.
And a blessing to all whom we touch. (PRGiles)

Benediction

Sung Sending Forth: Go Now in Peace

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price; Music: Don Besig

Conducted by Juan Carlos Acosta and accompanied by Elise Cho, the choir of Village Community Presbyterian Church in Rancho Santa Fe, California, performs Besig and Price's beloved 1998 benediction.

Go Now in Peace - Don Besig

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

Online Postlude: Use Me, Lord

This is another Besig and Price anthem, this time performed by the Hal Leonard Studio Singers and accompanied by Joseph M. Martin. While choristers may recognize Martin as being a significant name in contemporary secular and particularly sacred choral music, he is also an accomplished pianist, a piano pedagogy teacher, and co-author of a series of piano method books.

Use Me, Lord / Don Besig and Nancy Price

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Prayer for Grace, Assurance of Grace, and Prayer for Illumination – *Celebrate God's Presence*