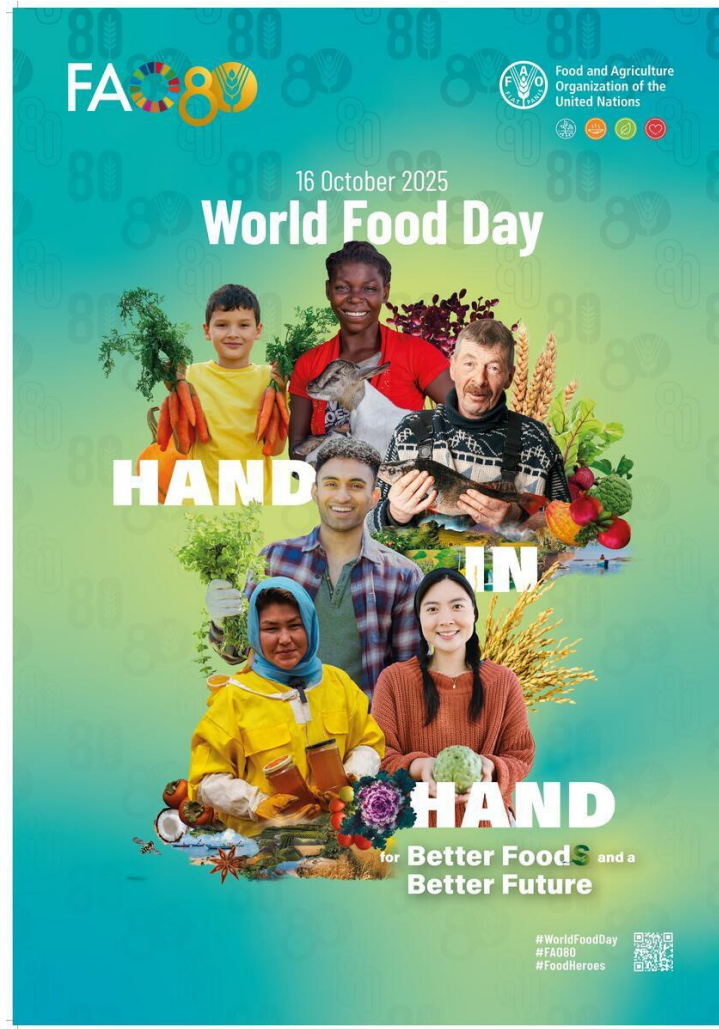


**The United Church of Canada
Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge**

October 26, 2025 – World Food Sunday



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Welcome

*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**.*

Acknowledgement of the Land

The Life and Work of the Church

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

The light of this candle reminds us that the light and love of Christ is in our midst.
May its warmth remind us of the warmth of God's unconditional love.

Gathering

Centring Music: VU 374 (v. 1) – Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Words: Shirley Erena Murray 1989, alt.; Music: Attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844

The hymn tune BEACH SPRING is performed by Rodney Jantzi on a reed or pump organ (like the one at Kilbride, where the performer must use their feet to pump air through the reeds to produce the sound). Jantzi himself actually restored this instrument, which was originally made in Berlin, Ontario (now Kitchener). If you are interested in discovering more about reed organs, consider exploring some of Jantzi's other videos.

[Beach Spring \(Hymn tune\) - B. F. White - Berlin Reed Organ](#)

- 1 Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Call to Worship:

We come as ordinary people, with ordinary lives.

Ordinary we are, but your call to us is powerful.

We come to be fed at your table of grace.

We come to be fed, knowing that we are also called to feed others.

We come remembering your commissioning to us, to live out our faith as presence in this world.

As your called people, we proclaim justice and encourage generosity.

Prayer of Approach:

Holy one, your people are here.

Your people are everywhere.

May the Spirit be with us in our worship.

May the Spirit be with all humanity and all creation, until your abundance is truly shared.

We open our hearts in word and in song, in hope and in faith.

Let our worship be full of your love, O God. Amen.

Hymn: VU 603 – In Loving Partnership We Come

Words & Music: Jim Strathdee 1982

Musicians of Peninsula United, a tripartite amalgamation of congregations in South Surrey and White Rock, BC, perform Jim Strathdee's hymn during the pandemic lockdowns. Strathdee (b. 1941) is an American musician and Christian worship music composer who, alongside his wife Jean, has spent a large part of his career travelling and ministering through music.

IN LOVING PARTNERSHIP WE COME VU 603

- 1 In loving partnership we come,
seeking, O God, your will to do.
Our prayers and actions now receive;
we freely offer them to you.
- 2 We are the hands and feet of Christ,
serving by grace each other's need.
We dare to risk and sacrifice
with truthful word and faithful deed.
- 3 Loving community we seek;
your hope and strength within us move.
The poor and rich, the strong and weak
are brought together in your love.
- 4 In loving partnership, O God,
help us your future to proclaim.
Justice and peace be our desire,
we humbly pray in Jesus' name.

Prayer for Grace:

Great Creator, we come to you as a people who believe we know you,
and yet we struggle to recognize you in our daily interactions.

We find it easier to fall back into the smallness of our lives, to let pettiness dictate our reactions, and to allow cynicism to invade our thoughts.

How do we find you, God, when the noise of the world drowns out your call?

When we come together in worship, we become infused with your grace, yet during the rest of the week, those things can be far from our minds.

Teach us to seek you through the clamor of the world. Remind us of your presence when daily life is swirling us away from your truth.

We long for that connection with you, with your love, and with your teachings.

Have mercy on us as we struggle to keep you nearby. Amen.

Assurance of Grace:

God's grace is over all and in all.

By God's grace, our faithfulness is possible.

By God's grace, we are renewed and can begin afresh each and every day.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sung Response: VU 374 (v.2) – Come and Find the Quiet Centre
[Beach Spring \(Hymn tune\) - B. F. White - Berlin Reed Organ](#)

2 Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

Prayer for Illumination:

God of word and wonder, reveal your truth in the words that are shared and in the silent moments. May the familiar be heard in a new way as we receive the word of scripture today. We ask, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Readings from Our Christian Tradition – Understanding the Language We Use

Psalm 84

The "Valley of Baca" is a biblical term referring to a dry, difficult place that symbolizes life's hardships, sorrow, and weeping.

"Zion" can refer to a specific hill in Jerusalem, a poetic or symbolic name for the Land of Israel or Jerusalem. . . . It can also represent the Jewish people, their homeland, or an idealized, unified society. . . .

Luke 18:9-14

"Justified" – made right with God, faced God in the courts and was declared "right" or "good."

Responsive Psalm 84: VU 800

Gospel: **Luke 18:9-14** *A Pharisee and tax collector pray*

18:9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:

18:10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

18:11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

18:12 I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.'

18:13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

18:14 I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Response: May God bless to our understanding these words from our Christian tradition.

Reflection

Hymn: MV 154 – Deep in Our Hearts

Words: John Oldham 1995; Music: Ron Klusmeier 1996

This Oldham and Klusmeier collaboration is led by singers Deidre and Helena Ayas at Pacific United and accompanied by Minister of Music Bryn Nixon. Described as "an interfaith expression of unity," the hymn is, according to *The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology*, John Wesley Oldham's most popular and beloved – and Oldham (b. 1945) has written more than 8000 hymns and songs!

Deep in Our Heart - More Voices 154

- 1 Deep in our hearts there is a common vision.
 Deep in our hearts there is a common song.
 Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
 telling Creation that we are one.
- 2 Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose.
 Deep in our hearts there is a common goal.
 Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
 justice and peace in harmony.
- 3 Deep in our hearts, there is a common longing.
 Deep in our hearts, there is a common theme.
 Deep in our hearts, there is a common current,
 flowing to freedom like a stream.
- 4 Deep in our hearts there is a common vision.
 Deep in our hearts there is a common song.
 Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
 telling Creation that we are one.

Prayers of the People & Prayer of Jesus:

Sing into Prayer: VU 400 – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The Spring Hill Singers is a high school choral group from Spring Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama. They perform Ken Medema's music as an anthem arranged by Jack Schrader.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Offertory: MV 191 – What Can I Do?

Words & Music: Paul Rumbolt & Michele McCarthy

Musicians of Golden Ears United perform this offertory in an arrangement by Alan Whitmore.

MV 191 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.

Offering Prayer:

These gifts are to provide living water for lives that are parched, Life-Giving God, and actual food and water for any who live with a scarcity of these essentials. These gifts are offered to encourage those who wonder if their hopes will ever come to fruition, and to support the gardeners who lovingly tend your world and its peoples in so many ways. Amen.

Hymn: VU 595 – We Are Pilgrims on a Journey

Words & Music: Richard Gillard 1977; arr. Betty Pulkingham

Also known as "The Servant Song," Richard Gillard's 1977 hymn is performed live by the Sunday 7pm Choir that serves St Francis de Sales Parish in Ajax, Ontario. Although the music director takes it at a slower tempo than I do, this musical choice gives the hymn a gentle, contemplative character – a lovely change of pace.

The Servant Song | Christian & Catholic Hymn | Richard Gillard & Betty Pulkingham | Sunday 7pm Choir

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Commissioning:

Like autumn leaves rustling on the ground in rainbow colours of promise, may we go out to share the promises of God.

May God bless what we offer to nourish life in the world; what we do to bring sustenance, joy, and delight; and what we model to transform people's giving into a habit of abundant sharing in Jesus' name.

Benediction

Sung Sending Forth: VU 347 (v. 3) Come and Find the Quiet Centre
[Beach Spring \(Hymn tune\) - B. F. White - Berlin Reed Organ](#)

- 3 In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Online Postlude: Beach Spring

This little gem features the "Hymn Keepers," members of Grace Baptist Church in Decatur, Texas, as they perform the BEACH SPRING tune on guitar and dulcimer. This is the music we use for "Come and Find the Quiet Centre," but in this recording the musicians sing verses 1 and 3 of "We Are [Travellers] on a Journey" in harmony. A nice combination of two of our hymns for today's service and a beautiful performance by these musicians.

[The Hymn Keepers - "Beach Spring" - YouTube](#)

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Liturgy Credits:

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- Call to Worship written by Gord Dunbar, p. 45
- Opening Prayer written by Robin Wardlaw, p. 45
- Prayer for Grace written by Leeyan Steinhorsen, p.36-37
- Assurance of Grace written by Beth W. Johnston, p. 36
- Prayer for Illumination by Beverly Brazier, p. 38 (*an excerpt from*)
- Offering Prayer written by Karen Boivin, p. 45
- Commissioning written by Gord Dunbar, p. 45