

Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge
Carlisle United Church
Sunday, July 5, 10 am

Worship Leader: Rev. Gayle MacDonald
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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Greeting:

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

We begin this time of worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on the land of the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, 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.

The Life and Work of the Church
(Announcements and Celebrations)

Lighting the Christ Candle

Centring Quiet

(Let us quiet our minds and centre our hearts in God's presence)

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

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, alt. 1989; Music: attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844, harm. Ronald A. Nelson 1978

The Harmony Singers of Windsor Park United in Winnipeg perform this gentle, reflective hymn. While it may be of folk origin, the tune BEACH SPRING was attributed to American singing-school teacher and newspaper editor Benjamin Franklin White (1800-1879), co-editor of the shape-note hymnal *The Sacred Harp*, where the tune was first published in 1844. Some sources report the tune was named after the Beach Spring Baptist Church in Harris County, Georgia, where White lived.

"Come and Find the Quiet Centre"

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:

(written by Eric Hebert-Daly in Gathering, Pent1 2026, p. 38, used with permission)

Time calls us to this place

To find comfort, to find caring, to love one another.

Time is a gift we are given each morning we rise.

It is our responsibility to use it wisely.

It is also our responsibility to use it gently.

To be, rather than always "to do."

We are human creatures

And we come to this place to honour our Creator.

Come, sit, listen, and most importantly, BE in this place.

We have come answering God's call.

Prayer for the Day

Hymn: MV 8 – And On This Path

Words: Lynn Bauman 2000; Music: Linnea Good 2003

During the pandemic, The Journey Band at St Mary's Road United Church in Winnipeg made this recording of Lynn Bauman and Linnea Good's hymn in an arrangement by multi-instrumentalist and Journey Band member Jonathan Wong.

And on this Path

- 1 And on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!
- 2 So enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in
the gates of holiness are open wide!

Open wide! Open wide!
Open wide! The gates are open wide!

[Optional] Theme Conversation

Prayer for Illumination

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

¹⁶ "To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

¹⁷ "We played the pipe for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not mourn.'

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

The Father Revealed in the Son

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Response:

The Word of God spoken among us.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Hymn: MV 89 – Love Is the Touch

Words: Alison M. Robertson 1998; Music: John L. Bell 1998

This track is from Lori True's 2010 album *Let This Be the Time: Songs of Transformation and Peace*. According to the GIA Publications website, True is the Director of Ritual and Liturgy for the Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet in St Paul, Minnesota. She is a workshop and retreat leader, concert performer, composer, and recording artist with five albums of her original compositions published through GIA. [Love Is the Touch](#)

- 1 Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

- 2 Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

- 3 Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

- 4 Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offertory: VU 540 – Grant Us, God, the Grace

Words: anonymous; Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmodia Sacra 1715, adapt. Henry John Gauntlett 1961

Organist Lauma Akmene performs the hymn tune STUTTGART, first published in 1715 and used as a setting for hymn lyrics including the offertory "Grant Us, God, the Grace" and the Advent hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus."

["God, my King, thy might confessing" \(Hymn 415, Tune: Stuttgart\) from The Hymnal 1982.](#)

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People:

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

Words & Music: Ken Medema 1970

"The Singing Pastor" Steve Simpson shares his version of Ken Medema's hymn.
[Lord, Listen to your Children Praying - YouTube](#)

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!

Lord's Prayer: (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

⁹ Our Father in heaven!

May your Name be kept holy.

¹⁰ May your Kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.

¹¹ Give us the food we need today.

¹² Forgive us what we have done wrong,
as we too have forgiven those who have wronged us.

¹³ And do not lead us into hard testing,
but keep us safe from the Evil One.

For kingship, power and glory are yours forever.

Hymn: MV 88 – Over My Head

Words & Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Stephen Lee 2006

This track is from the Montreal Jubilation Gospel Choir's 2002 album *Goin' Up Yonder: Jubilation IX*. The choir was founded in 1982 by Trevor W. Payne, who served as its director until 2017; Rev. Frank Gabourel, minister of Union United, Montreal's oldest black community church, whose 75th anniversary inspired the choir's founding; and Daisy Peterson Sweeney, sister and piano teacher of Oscar Peterson. The choir is very highly regarded: it is the first Gospel Artist to win a Juno Award, has performed for the likes of Nelson Mandela and Queen Elizabeth II (on three separate occasions!), and has performed with famous artists such as Celine Dion and Ray Charles.

Over My Head

Over my head, I hear music in the air.
Over my head, I hear music in the air.
Over my head, I hear music in the air.
There must be a god somewhere.

1 When the storms of life are ragin'
I hear music in the air.
When the storms of life are ragin'
I hear music in the air.
When the storms of life are ragin'
I hear music in the air.
There must be a God somewhere. R

2 When the winds of strife are blowin'
I hear music in the air.
When the winds of strife are blowin'

I hear music in the air.
When the winds of strife are blowin'
I hear music in the air. R
There must be a God somewhere.

3 When the tide of hate is risin'
I hear music in the air.
When the tide of hate is risin'
I hear music in the air.
When the tide of hate is risin'
I hear music in the air.
There must be a God somewhere. R

4 O Jesus is a-callin'
I hear music in the air.
O Jesus is a-callin'
I hear music in the air.
O Jesus is a-callin'
I hear music in the air.
There must be a God somewhere. R

Commissioning and Benediction

Online Postlude: Festal March by Florence Price

Lauma Akmene is a Latvian organist, music director, and conductor who has performed across Europe and North America. Noting the predominance of white male composers in organ repertoire, Akmene is an advocate for diversity in classical music, often programming works by female composers and composers of colour in her concerts and worship services. In the following video, she performs a piece by Florence Price (1887-1953), a composer, organist, pianist, and music teacher recognized as the first African-American woman to have a composition performed by a major orchestra.

[Price — Festal March](#)