

Today We Celebrate the 101st Anniversary of The United Church of Canada

"For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table"



Photographer: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai, ©United Church of Canada
(interactive versions of picture: <https://united-church.ca/a-place-at-the-table>)

Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge

June 07 – Proper 5

Kilbride – 9:30am; Carlisle – 11:00 am

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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 Land

Welcome to this place and to this time together. We are pleased that you could join us today, as your presence helps to enrich the experience of worship.

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.

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

The Spirit of Christ is with us.

The light in me recognizes the light in you.

The Light of Christ is in our midst.

Centring Music: VU 283 – God Is the One (repeat)

Words & Music: Colin Gibson 1978

Pianist Robert Aszmies provides an instrumental track for New Zealand hymnist Colin Gibson's 1978 hymn, whose tune is known as GODPOINT. Gibson is a retired university English professor, lay preacher, choral director, organist, and music editor.
[God Is the One Whom We Seek Together #283 Voices United Church of Canada Colin Gibson](#)

God is the One whom we seek together,
God is the Life which is part of us all;
God is the Truth and the mark of mystery,
God is the Love and the Joy that makes us whole.

Call to Worship: *(from The United Church of Canada Centennial Service 2024)*

We believe that our relationships with the Creator, the land, the people, the plants, and the animals are sacred. Let us honour these sacred relationships as we gather together to worship God. This service is one we share across our denomination this day. We are one in the Spirit. From deep soil comes bold and daring growth. From the seeds of our past will come fresh new growth.

We come today to marvel at what has been harvested and prepare for what will come. We come to celebrate where we have been and where we are.

We come rejoicing with our ancestors and partners in faith across generations:

the Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians; the Evangelical United Brethren and Local Union Churches; the Indigenous Church; the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea; the United Church of Christ; the United Church of Christ in the Philippines; and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

We give thanks to God for the blessings of past, present, and future, and dare to plant these seeds of faith anew!

Opening Prayer: *(by mgm)*

Holy Spirit, blow among us. Clear out the cobwebs of fear and doubt and anxiety, that we may discern with You the possibilities You wish to live among us.

Teach us the joy of living gratefully in the present, the grace of accepting humbly our reality, and the faith to trust Your leading as we imagine our tomorrows. Amen.

Hymn: TLUS 138 – Let's Go Together (Welcome)

Words: Laurie Zelman 2007; Music: Mark A. Miller 2007

Accompanied by Kevin McIlwain Miller on piano, Audrey Hanson, Stephanie McIlwain Miller, and Jenny Posey from Lake Washington United Methodist Church in Kirkland, Washington, sing this inclusive and welcoming hymn. LWUM voted to become a Reconciling Church in 2009, which, according to the Reconciling Ministries Network, "is committed to intersectional justice across and beyond the United Methodist connection, working for the full participation of all LGBTQ+ people throughout the life and leadership of the Church."

"Welcome" • Audrey Hanson, Jenny Posey, Ms. Stephanie & Kevin Miller

1 Let's go together for a while,
and ask where we begin
to build a world where love can grow,
and hope can enter in,
to be the hands of healing,
and to plant the seed of peace,
singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome, the love of God to share,
'cause all of us are welcome here;
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let's talk together of a time
when we will share a feast,
where pride and power kneel to serve
the lonely and the least,
and joy will set the table
as we join our hands to pray, R

3 Let's dream together of the day

when earth and heav'n are one,
a city built of love and light,
the new Jerusalem,
where mourning turns to dancing,
ev'ry creature lifts its voice, R

Prayer for Illumination: *(from the United Church of Canada Centennial Service 2024, adapted, Gathering, P1, p. 35, used with permission)*

Holy One, you speak to us through the songs of birds and the wind in the trees, through the wisdom of living elders and our spiritual ancestors in faith. As we share these words of scripture today, may we receive what your Spirit is saying to the church. Amen.

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Christ heals a woman and raises a girl

9:9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

9:10 And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples.

9:11 When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

9:12 But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

9:13 Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

9:18 While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live."

9:19 And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.

9:20 Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,

9:21 for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well."

9:22 Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment.

9:23 When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,

9:24 he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him.

9:25 But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.

9:26 And the report of this spread through all of that district.

Response:

For the Words of our Faith read among us,

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Prayer of Confession: *(for Matthew 9:18-26, written by Carol E. Bayma in Gathering, P1, 2026, p. 44, used with permission)*

O God, we are so like the people you met in Galilee. We are frantic for our children's welfare, just like the leader who knelt before Jesus. We are aware of personal need for healing and cleansing, like the woman with the hemorrhage. Just like some in the crowd, we can be unkind and disrespectful to you and others because of what we think is right.

Forgive us, Lord. Help us to trust your love for us as Matthew the tax collector did. Help us to trust your power to heal and save, as the leader and the woman did. Help us to dare to step out of our rightness and into your righteousness. For you came and come today to seek and save even us. 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.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: MV 138 – My Love Colours Outside the Lines

Words & Music: Gordon Light 1995

A Toronto-based actor, singer, producer, teacher, and congregant of Windermere United Church, Adrian Marchuk sings his arrangement of Gordon Light's 1995 hymn, accompanied by Dave Celia on percussion and Christine Bougie on guitar. The video was created for a regional council AGM during the pandemic lockdowns.

[My Love Colours Outside The Lines](#)

- 1 My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find;
and takes me into places where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

- 2 My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
and takes me into places where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.
 We'll never walk on water
 if we're not prepared to drown,
 body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
 And we'll never move the gravestones

if we're not prepared to die and realize
there are worlds outside the lines.

3 My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die and realize
there are worlds outside the lines.

4 My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

Prayer for the Church: *(from the United Church of Canada Centennial Service 2024, adapted, Gathering, P1, p. 35, used with permission)*

God of the past, present, and future, at this moment we are on the threshold. Our denomination is 101 years old.

As we remember backward to dream forward, help us to go forth, gathering in all that is good and lovely, repairing the damage we find, lamenting that which has died and is dying. Guide us through this year so that in one year we will witness how the seeds of today have blossomed.

Let this year be a time of preparation so that what you would grow in this place can take root. All of this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication/Offering: *(from the United Church of Canada Centennial Service 2024, adapted, Gathering, P1, p. 35, used with permission)*

Gracious God, we believe that you are calling us forward into a new day. We believe in a future that is rooted in your abundant life, and we trust you with this future, even though it is beyond the horizon of our dreams.

In gratitude we offer you the blessings you have already given us – our time, our talents, our finances, and our hopes – so that you might use them and transform them for the good of the whole world. May these gifts be a blessing to the people of the United Church of Canada and beyond. Amen.

Offertory: MV 191 – What Can I Do?

Words & Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore 2005

Michel Gauthier performs a slower-paced jazz improvisation on Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy's offertory. Gauthier is the Music Director at Mount Royal United Church in Quebec.

"What Can I Do?" MV 191 (Rumbolt-McCarthy)

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.

[Carlisle] Solo: Dave Walker – As the Wind Blows
Words and Music: Pat Mayberry 2012; arr. David Kai 2014)

[Carlisle] Farewell to Dave and Mary Walker:

When anyone leaves our church family,
we are never quite the same.
Today we say farewell to Mary and Dave.
It is with sadness that we see them go,
yet we acknowledge
that God may call any of us in new directions.
For many years, you have been part of this congregation.
Your strengths and needs have joined our strengths and needs.
We have shared worship, hard work,
fellowship, and growth in the faith.
You have given of your time, your energy, and your gifts.
As you leave us, we pray that you will continue
to be faithful to God's call.
Remember us as friends and co-workers in Christ.
Support us with your continuing love and prayers,
even as we will support you.
(presentation of membership certificates)

[Carlisle] Prayer:

God of the past and God of the future:
You are the strength and the protector of your people.
We place in your hands Dave and Mary Walker of this congregation,
who are about to leave us.
Bless and keep them, O God;
hold them in the palm of your hand;
watch over them and guide them.
May they go from this place,
secure in the knowledge of your love and care,
trusting that wherever they may go, you are there,
and because of that,
they are home.

[Carlisle] Blessing: (together)
Go in peace.

**Go in the strength of God.
Go in love. Amen.**

[Carlisle] Communion Hymn: Rhythms of Spirit

Words & Music: Susan Lukey and David Robertson 2010, rev. 2025

- 1 Come to the table, where God has led.
Lift up the cup and share broken bread.
Offer thanksgiving, deep in your heart,
Fed by God's Spirit doing your part.
- 2 Gifts of the past in story and song.
Visions and rhythms are beck'ning on
Gathered at table, share common meal.
God's rhythm moves us; Preach, love and heal!
- 3 Move to the rhythm now find your pace.
Rhythms of Spirit the pulse of grace.
Walking and wheeling, come take your place.
God bless this meal in sacred space.
God bless this meal in sacred space.

[Kilbride] Commuion Hymn: VU 480 – Let Us Break Bread Together

Words & Music: African-American spiritual 19th century

While it took me a minute to figure out that "CFP Natty" refers to a College Football Playoff National Championship game, what caught my attention was the sheer number of brass bells lined up, blasting out this spiritual from memory over the noise of the crowd!

2020 CFP Natty - Let Us Break Bread Together

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees,
let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.
- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees,
let us drink wine together on our knees. R
- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees,
let us praise God together on our knees. R

Communion Service (see insert)

Hymn: MV 145 – Draw the Circle Wide

Words & Music: Gordon Light 1994

Musicians of Golden Ears United in Maple Ridge, BC, perform Gordon Light's uplifting hymn with Children and Family Minister Lesley Fairley sharing actions.

[MV 145 Draw the Circle Wide with Actions - follow along with this video for recording actions](#)

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.

- 1 God the still point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. R
- 2 Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. R
- 3 Let the dreams we dream be larger
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. R

Commissioning & Benediction

[Carlisle] Choral Benediction: An Irish Blessing

Words: traditional; Music: Thomas Bell; arr. anon. 1993)

Online Postlude: Hornpipe from *Water Music*

Something celebratory is needed for the 101st anniversary of the UCC, so I offer the lively Hornpipe from George Frideric Handel's *Water Music*. A collection of orchestral movements, *Water Music* was premiered on July 17, 1717, in fulfilment of King George I's request for a concert during an excursion along the River Thames. Two barges travelled from Whitehall to Chelsea and back, one containing the king and his aristocratic guests, the other about fifty musicians. The British newspaper *The Daily Courant* reported that the river was filled with many watercrafts, as Londoners flocked to the Thames to hear the concert and witness the spectacle. It was a great success!

[Handel Water Music: Hornpipe; the FestspielOrchester Göttingen, Laurence Cummings, director 4K - YouTube](#)