

Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge
Sunday June 14, 2026 – Indigenous Day of Prayer
Cemetery Memorial Service, Carlisle UC

Kilbride 9:30 am; Carlisle 11 am

Worship Leader: Rev. Gayle MacDonald

Cell: 289-442-8420; Email: mgmacd@gmail.com

Music Leader: Dr. Heather Olaveson

Office Administrator: Andrea Osterroth McRae

Office: 905-689-8630

*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

(Central United, Moncton, Canada)

A warm welcome is extended to all. Especially those who may be joining us for a first time. Your presence enriches this gathering and contributes to the creative evolution of community. Thanks for the gift of you!

Acknowledgement of the Land

We begin this time of worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on the land 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).

This land has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning. We thank all the generations of Indigenous people who have taken care of this land and been its stewards for thousands of years. We give thanks for the countless ways they have assisted the settler peoples who came to inhabit the land. We also recognize the contributions Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening this region, the provinces, and Canada as a whole.

Meegwetch. All my relations.

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(All My Relations, © United Church of Canada, 2022)*

We light this candle. May its light guide us to truth talking and to travelling good paths. **May we in turn share the light with those we meet until it spreads to all peoples worldwide.**

Centring Music: MV 30 (v. 1) – It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

Words: Ruth Duck 1992; Music: Ron Klusmeier 1992



The choristers of Trinity Presbyterian Church in York Mills give a virtual performance of Ruth Duck and Ron Klusmeier's 1992 collaboration, accompanied by some beautiful footage of Creation.

It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

1 It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea.
And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

Call to Worship: (All My Relations, © United Church of Canada, 2022)

In the presence of Creator, we gather:

people carrying burdens we may not know about looking for comfort, folks needing their spirits refreshed.

We draw together hoping for that touch that will enliven us, longing to be embraced in arms of love and understanding.

Help us to put aside our differences and see the earth as you see it, boundary-free.

You call us all: babies, toddlers on unsteady feet, school-age children with curious minds, teens with questing spirits, full of youthful confidence one moment and like frightened children the next.

We are called, as adults trying to take good paths watching out for the next generations, and those easing into their winter years passing on our teachings.

We are all kin in this meeting place whether we gather in person or through technology, our spirits joining to say meegwetch for all that we have been blessed with.

Thanks be to God for the goodness in our lives. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

All-encompassing God, you who called creation out of chaos. You breathed the sacred word Ruah (breath, Spirit) and life came into being. Your magnificence is a Holy Mystery that we are too human to be able to comprehend. We give thanks for that which is beyond our comprehension. It allows us to dream and imagine. We give all praise and glory to you, Most Holy, for holding us in all the seasons of our days, to love and to cherish in this life and in everlasting life. We are in awe of our covenanted love and journey with you. Amen.

Hymn: MV 1 (vv. 1, 4 & 5) – Let Us Build a House

Words & Music: Marty Haugen 2006

Written by contemporary American liturgical composer Marty Haugen, this 2006 hymn is sung at the Collegiate Church of St Mary in Warwick and broadcast on the BBC's program *Songs of Praise*. With foundations dating back over 900 years, this

church has a Grade I listing from the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission in England, a designation reserved for buildings that are of exceptional interest.

Let Us Build A House

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Prayer of Confession:

Let us pray.

Great loving Spirit, you travel with us on so many paths. Some trails are straight and easy to navigate, but others are very difficult, windy, and up steep hills. We confess that sometimes, when things get tough, we haven't always followed your teachings or done things in a good way. Sometimes we found it too taxing to sit still and listen to our Elders for the wisdom they bring. Other times, Creator, we just did not show up. We ask for forgiveness when we know we could have done better.

Words of Assurance:

On this Indigenous Day of Prayer, we are assured of Creator's unending love for us all. Our traditional teachings offer us assurance and the promise that we are Spirit first and we will always be part of creation. This is true, whether we are descended from Settlers or are Aboriginal or some blend of these. Thanks be to God.

Sung Response: VU 30 (v. 1) – It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

Words: Ruth Duck 1992; Music: Ron Klusmeier 1992

[It's a Song of Praise to the Maker](#)

1 It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea.
And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

Prayer for Illumination: (*mgm*)

May the words we read and speak,
may the prayers we offer, and
may the reflections of our hearts and minds
nourish our faith and draw us ever closer
to the Creator. Amen.

Words from Our Faith Tradition

Epistle: Romans 5:1-8 (First Nations Version: an Indigenous Bible Translation of the New Testament)

Peace with the Great Spirit

1 This good standing we have brings peace with the Great Spirit. This peace comes from trusting in Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One and what he has done for us. 2 Our trust in him opens the way into Creator's great kindness and is now the solid ground on which we stand. Now our boasting is in him, as we look forward to being the kind of people the Great Spirit created us to be, a people filled with his beauty and shining-greatness.

3-4 But we must also find joy in our sufferings on his behalf. For we know that when the trail gets rough, we must walk with firm steps to reach the end. As we walk firmly in his footprints, we gain the strength of spirit that we need to stay true to the path. 5 This gives us the hope we need to reach the end of the trail with honour. All of this is because of Creator's great love that has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who is his gift to us from above.

Set Free from Broken Ways

6 When the time was right, while we were still weak human beings following our bad hearts and broken ways, the Chosen One died for us. 7 It is not easy to find someone

who is willing to die for a good person, even though we might find someone with the courage to die for a very good person. 8 But here is the way the Maker of Life proves how deep his love is for us: even when we were still following our bad hearts and broken ways, the Chosen One gave his life for us.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:35-10:8

9 ³⁵⁻³⁸ Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. When he looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. "What a huge harvest!" he said to his disciples. "How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!"

The Twelve Harvest Hands

10 ¹⁻⁴ The prayer was no sooner prayed than it was answered. Jesus called twelve of his followers and sent them into the ripe fields. He gave them power to kick out the evil spirits and to tenderly care for the bruised and hurt lives. This is the list of the twelve he sent:

Simon (they called him Peter, or "Rock"),

Andrew, his brother,

James, Zebedee's son,

John, his brother,

Philip,

Bartholomew,

Thomas,

Matthew, the tax man,

James, son of Alphaeus,

Thaddaeus,

Simon, the Canaanite,

Judas Iscariot (who later turned on him).

⁵⁻⁸ Jesus sent his twelve harvest hands out with this charge:

"Don't begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And don't try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy. Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighbourhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously."

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

Reflection

Hymn: VU 509 – I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Words & Music: Dan Schutte 1981

A 25 February 2026 article on *EWTN News* reports that Paul Luby, an Irish musician now living in Australia, has started singing Catholic Mass hymns during pub gigs

alongside his usual covers and original songs . . . and he's getting a great response from the audience. At a bar in Sydney he impulsively added "Here I Am Lord" to the set list and later commented, "I couldn't believe singing the chorus, everyone was singing it right back to me. It was definitely the song of the night. It surprised me and went from there." While the following video isn't from that particular night, it is the same hymn that got such an overwhelmingly positive response from the pub crowd.

Here I Am Lord (Acoustic church version)

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? R

Prayers of the People:

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

Spring Hill Singers from Spring Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama, perform Ken Medema's song in an arrangement by Jack Schrader. This choral group is for students in grades 9 through 12, and they not only help lead worship services throughout the year, but also prepare a highly anticipated annual sacred concert that is repeated in parks, malls, prisons, and other churches as part of an annual 10-12 day mission trip.

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!*

Loving and Grace-Filled Creator,
we show much gratitude for the gift of faith and life in this world.
We pray for open hearts and minds, that we may be a part of your transforming love
and true reconciliation.

We pray for your wisdom and guidance,
that we may live as a blessing for all of creation.
Whether we identify as traditional, religious,
or spiritual, may we live with trust, love, honesty, and humility.

People: Creator, receive our prayers. . . .

We give thanks today for The United Church of Canada and its leadership. For their
dedication to reconciliation and trying to act and do on their faith journey.

Help us to be filled with your Spirit of Compassion.

We pray for all people who suffer in the world, those we know and those we have not
yet met.

And may we generously pray for continued relationship building, flourishing ideas, and
bold discipleship in our wonderful church. . . .

*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!*

We give you thanks for the good news in our sacred scriptures and our traditional
teachings. May those amazing teachings spread goodness and love to all corners of
creation.

We pray today for those who struggle with illness or disease, whether of health, heart,
mind, or relationship. For those who struggle with addiction, relationship breakdown,
and to those who sit with our most vulnerable, may your constant love and compassion
surround them. . . .

May your sacred presence come to those who need you most. Bring them peace and
reassurance of your unconditional love through friends, family, and the prayers of
people in churches and places of worship around the world.

*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!*

In this season of renewal, we are called to let our light shine bright and to allow and
encourage others to let their light shine even brighter. We are Spirit first, and that
Spirit knows to soar like an eagle, up high in the blue sky.

**People: Creator, we ask for the grace to lead a faithful life, to walk with a
deep sense of spirituality, to live radical hospitality, and to journey
forward in a good way, always.**

We pray all these prayers in the name of the one who taught his disciples and us to pray:

Lord's Prayer (a paraphrase): *(from New Zealand Prayerbook)*
(responsively)

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer,

Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

hallowed be thy name,

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth, as it is in heaven.

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your

heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

Give us this day our daily bread,

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil:

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil,

free us.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory

forever and ever.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

now and forever.

Amen.

[Carlisle] Mission & Service Story

Dedication of the Offering:

Empowering God,

we believe your Spirit is with us this day, leading us into a new future.

We offer our time, talents, finances, and hopes,

trusting you to do more than we can dream possible.

Bless us and these offerings with your Spirit.

May we be bold disciples,

deeply connected to you,

who dare to act for justice.

This we pray, in Jesus' name.
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.

Hymn: In Every Age (insert)

Words & Music: Janet Sullivan Whitaker 1988, 1999

Lifelong choral director and Catholic music director Chris Brunelle performs Janet Sullivan Whitaker's beautiful hymn. Hailing from California, Whitaker is a forty-year veteran of parish music leadership as well as a composer, recording artist, workshop and retreat leader, and storyteller.

[In Every Age by Janet Sullivan Whitaker](#)

- 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

You have been our refuge.

You have been our hope.

[Kilbride] Benediction

[Carlisle] Closing Prayer & Blessing:

The Minister and the Congregation process to the Butterfly Garden in the Cemetery for a closing prayer and blessing.

Online Postlude: mahti mamwi nikamotan (Let's All Sing Together)

The Junior Choir (grades 5-8) from MB Sings, an annual weekend event of choral singing and community-building in Manitoba, performs Sherryl Sewepagaham's "mahti mamwi nikamotan," a work commissioned by the Kodály Society of Canada on the occasion of its 50th anniversary in 2023. Sewepagaham is of Cree-Dene ancestry from the Little Red River Cree Nation in northern Alberta. She is an experienced elementary music educator, a music therapist working with Indigenous patients, and a choral composer who integrates Cree language and rhythms into her internationally performed compositions. She writes, "mahti mamawi nikamotan (Let's All Sing Together) is dedicated to our grandparents. May they guide us hand in hand as we walk through this life journey together."

Mahti Mamawi Nikamotan (Let Us Sing Together) by Sherryl Sewepagaham

Please join us for refreshments after the service.