

Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Kilbride 9:30 am; Carlisle 11 am

Worship Leader: Rev. Gayle MacDonald

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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 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 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.

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others. (Matthew 5:14-16a)

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:

We come from scattered lives to this sanctuary,
seeking unity in the Spirit,
seeking the grace of Christ,
seeking the peace of God.

Opening Prayer:

Come to us, Holy God,
as we gather before you;

encircle us with your love.

Bless us with your sustaining presence;

surround us with your grace.

Draw us 'round your living Word

and bind us to one another as disciples of Christ,

whose Spirit is in our midst.

Amen.

Hymn: VU 395 (vv. 1, 2, & 4) – Come In, Come In and Sit Down

Words & Music: James K. Manley 1984 alt., arr. Darryl Nixon 1987

Golden Ears United musicians give an energetic performance of this hymn from the eighties. It was composed by singer-songwriter Rev. James K. Manley, a United Church of Christ minister ordained in 1966 in California. It became well known in the United Church when it was published in *Songs for a Gospel People* (1987), what you might remember as the old green hymnal.

[VU 395 Come In, Come In and Sit Down](#)

Come in, come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.

- 1 You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain,
so share in the laughter
and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family. R

- 2 God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace,

for we are a part of the family. R

- 4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all,
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family. R

Prayer for Grace

Words of Assurance:

The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

Sung Response: MV 90 – Don't Be Afraid

Words: John L. Bell & Graham Maule 1995; Music: John L. Bell 1995

The Eastern Mennonite School Virtual Choir, featuring the voices of more than 100 students, parents, faculty, and alumni, recorded this message of hope and encouragement at the start of the pandemic in 2020.

[Eastern Mennonite School Virtual Choir: "Don't Be Afraid"](#)

Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger
and I have promised,
promised to be always near.

Prayer for Illumination:

In our struggle to hear your Word, O God,
bless even our doubts, our wonderings,
our wanderings, our soul-struggles,
life's deep questions, and deeper mysteries.
Teach us to love our questions
as well as our answers. Amen.

Words from Our Faith Tradition

Psalm 16: The Brevity of Life – a paraphrase (*Jim Taylor, Everyday Psalms*)

1 Life is short, Lord.

Like a breath in the night, it sinks into silence.

2 Human relationships all pass away;

we cannot count on them for comfort in old age.

Only you, God, are forever.

Why should I put anything else first in my life?

3 Some people hold you as their closest companion.

They are the saints. I would like to be like them.

4 Many people claim to put you first,

but they chase riches and popularity, privilege and power.

5 I say that there is nothing in life but God.

You are all anyone needs.

7 In the silence of the night, I listen for the breath of God;

in the bedlam of a busy day, I wait for whispers of wisdom.

8 I keep my mind on God.

You surround me like the air I breathe;

you buoy me up like water.

9 Even in a time of loss, I raise my arms to your embrace;

my heart rests easy.

10 For you are a loving God.

Though our lives end, we do not vanish into a lifeless void.

11 You gather us into your eternal warmth,

where we will enjoy the endless sunshine of your smile.

Sung Response: MV 90 – Don't Be Afraid

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[Eastern Mennonite School Virtual Choir: "Don't Be Afraid"](#)

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger,

my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger

and I have promised,

promised to be always near.

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

Welcome Christ in those Christ sends

10:40 "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

10:41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous,

10:42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Reflection

Hymn: MV 137 – Welcome, Jesus, You Are Welcome (tune: VU 562)

Words & Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1992, rev. 2004

Dan Damon's wonderfully jazzy performance of his own minor hymn can be found on his album digital *Winter's Child* (2021). Besides being an internationally published hymnist and a retired ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, Damon is also a jazz pianist who regularly performs in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Welcome, Jesus, You Are Welcome

- 1 Welcome, Jesus, you are welcome
in this world made hard by fear;
loving reach us, living teach us,
Jesus, you are welcome here.
- 2 Welcome, Jesus, you are welcome
in the ghettos we have made;
give the tattered, bruised, and battered
winter shelter, summer shade.
- 3 Welcome, Jesus, you are welcome
with the wealthy and the poor;
give the broken love unspoken,
open wide each prison door.
- 4 Welcome, Jesus, you are welcome;
let your loving light appear.
In our seeing, in our being,
Jesus, you are welcome here.

Prayers of the People:

Sing into prayer: VU 661 (v. 3) – Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus

Words and Music: Joe Pinson 1979

St John's United in Elmvale, Ontario, provides this choral lyric video, complete with a verse in four-part harmony, a verse featuring a soloist, and a final verse with a descant.

[Come to my Heart Lord Jesus](#)

- 3 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
answer my prayer today.
Give me the peace and joy
that only you can bring.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
give me a song to sing.

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.

Dedication of the Offering:

In the name and in the spirit of Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you, O God.

Help us to give with them
a ready mind, a willing spirit,
and a joyful heart. Amen.

Offertory: MV 191 – What Can I Do?

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

Michel Gauthier, the Music Director at Mount Royal United Church in Quebec, performs a new jazz improvisation on Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy's offertory. Have a listen and see how it differs from the Gauthier improvisation I shared last week.

["What Can I Do" MV 191](#)

[Kilbride] Communion: see insert

Hymn: TLUS 117 – Could It Be That God Is Singing

Words: Becca J.R. Lachman 2004, rev. 2018; Music: Southern Harmony 1854, arr. Alice Parker 2008

The Faith and Life Choirs from Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler, Manitoba, perform Becca Lachman's hymn in an arrangement by Ben Pauls. Lachman set her text to a tune from *Southern Harmony*, one of the most popular southern tune books of the nineteenth century. *Southern Harmony* was first printed in 1835, having been compiled by William "Singing Billy" Walker (1809-1875), the creator of what is known as "shape note" notation.

[Could it be that God is singing? Faith and Life Choirs](#)

- 1 Could it be that God is singing
and these notes are my reply
to the God-light warm within me,
joining earth and sea and sky?
Surely mercy has a cadence –

I can feel it in my soul!
Surely justice builds a chorus,
making all God's children whole!

2 Have you carried heavy silence,
have you let old sorrows win,
or proclaimed psalms of forgiveness,
but not offered them within?
Oh, the Spirit, she was singing,
even when we could not hear
her abundant streams of living,
waiting for us to come near.

3 Hallelujah for my Jesus,
for his life's surprising course!
May I, too, live bold resistance
to injustice, hate, and force.
Surely peace, it has a cadence,
asking all of what we bring!
And if music is God breathing,
take a holy breath and sing!

Commissioning and Benediction

Online Postlude: How Can I Keep from Singing?

Becca Lachman's lyrics in today's closing hymn bring to mind words penned by "Pauline T" in 1868: "Thro' all the tumult and the strife / I hear the music ringing; / It finds an echo in my soul – / How can I keep from singing?" The Martens Sisters – Madeleine, Amy, and Elizabeth, ranging in age from about fifteen to twenty at the time of this video – perform a beautiful arrangement by Sally DeFord and James Loynes featuring close harmonies. Enjoy!

[How Can I Keep From Singing? - The Martens Sisters - YouTube](#)