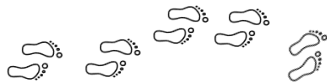


CARLISLE UNITED CHURCH
Celebrating 200 Years
Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge
September 27, 2026 – Creation 3

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

Words & Music copies covered by CCLI – License #A-727029

We walk by faith. ~ 2 Cor. 5:7



Acknowledgement of the Land

As we worship God, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of 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.

Welcome: Bob Moulder, Carlisle U.C. Board

The Life and Work of the Church
(see bulletin insert)

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.

Invitation to Worship

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

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

This sensitive arrangement of Mark Miller and Laura Zelman's hymn of inclusion is sung by Naomi Kvitem, her daughter Grace Murray, and her friend Betsy Heller at Pine Island United Methodist Church. The hymn's collaborators met when Zelman was a student at theological school.

Welcome Trio 7-9-2012

- 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 the Day

1st Reading: 2 Timothy 1:3-7

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Carlisle United Church 1826-2026 ~ Some Voices from Our History

by Arlene Munro and Cathy Moulder

♪ **Hymn:** VU 595 – We Are Pilgrims (The Servant Song)

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

Sam Ellington (voice) and Diane Lines (keyboard) from Golden Ears United Church in Maple Ridge, BC, shared this recording with the online community during Covid lockdowns. The 1977 hymn was written by British-born New Zealander Richard Gillard, a self-taught guitarist who plays mainly folk-style music.

VU 595 WE ARE PILGRIMS

- 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 nighttime 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.

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 43:16a, 18-21 (The Message)

¹⁶⁻²¹ This is what God says,

"Forget about what's happened;

don't keep going over old history.

Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new.

It's bursting out! Don't you see it?

There it is! I'm making a road through the desert,
rivers in the badlands.
Wild animals will say "Thank you!"
—the coyotes and the buzzards—
Because I provided water in the desert,
rivers through the sunbaked earth,
Drinking water for the people I chose,
the people I made especially for myself,
a people custom-made to praise me."

Gospel: Matthew 21:18-21

18 Early in the morning, as Jesus was on his way back to the city, he was hungry.
19 Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered.
20 When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" they asked.
21 Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. **22** If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

Response:

For the words of Scripture spoken among us,
thanks be to God.

Reflection: Memory and Imagination

Prayers of the People:

Sing into prayer: VU p. 865 – refrain "Hear our prayer"

Words: adapt. from Psalm 143; Music: George Whelpton 1897

Singer-songwriter, musician, private music teacher, and piano tuner Scott Schell sings this psalm refrain while accompanying himself on guitar.

["Hear Our Prayer O Lord" prayer response by George Whelpton #songsofcomfort](#)

Hear our prayer, O God,
hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us,
and grant us your peace.

Lord's Prayer: (*alternate from New Zealand*)

**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:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
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.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
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 you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen.

♪ **Offertory:** VU 544 – In Gratitude and Humble Trust

Words: Frank von Christierson 1960, alt.; Music: English traditional melody, harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams 1905

FOREST GREEN is an English folk tune not only used for this offertory, but also sometimes for the carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem." This lovely newer arrangement by Dale Wood is performed by organist John Ferguson and the St Olaf Handbell Choir. Forest Green "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Arr. D. Wood for Organ & Handbells)

In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

Offering Prayer:

♪ **Hymn:** MV 209 – Go Make a Difference

Words & Music: Steve Angrisano & Tom Tomaszek 1997

Verse 1 of Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek's contemporary hymn is inspired by Matthew 5:13-16 ("... salt of the earth ... light of the world. . ."). This virtual performance features young adults and youth from the Prairie to Pine Region of the United Church of Canada, which encompasses Manitoba and NW Ontario.

Go Make a Difference

*Go make a difference.
We can make a difference.*

*Go make a difference in the world.
Go make a difference.
We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.*

- 1 We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
The love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**
- 2 We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**
- 3 So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**

Commissioning & Benediction

Online Postlude: Postlude on "Truro"

Organist Michael Blessing performs David Lasky's "Postlude on 'Truro'" from Lasky's collection *Joyous Postludes for Organ: Hymns and Trumpet Tunes*. Named for the town in county Cornwall, the anonymous tune TRURO was first published in *Musica Sacra, Being a Choice Collection of Psalm and Hymn Tunes* ca. 1778. It has since appeared in numerous hymn settings – you may recognize it from "Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates," "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing," or many others.

David Lasky - Postlude on "Truro"



After the postlude, please join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship. You will hear the carillon bells as you exit the sanctuary.