



Mountainside United Church

3520 Rue University Montreal, Qc, H3A 2A7

Sunday Worship, 10:30 am

Tel: (514) 486-1165 www.mountainsideunited.ca

Creation II Year C : Fauna
September 14, 2025

Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice

Territorial Acknowledgement:

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinabeg and Kanien'kehá:ka. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous peoples whose presence marks this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

Prelude:

His Eye Is on the Sparrow - Charles H. Gabriel, arr. Gary Norian
Piano: Alberto Santos

Holy Greeting

The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

And also with you!

Hymn: VU# 303 *For Beauty of Prairies*

1. For beauty of prairies, for grandeur of trees,
for flowers of woodlands, for creatures of seas,
for all you created and gave us to share,
we praise you, Creator, extolling your care.
2. As stewards of beauty received at your hand,
as creatures who hear your most urgent command,
we turn from our wasteful destruction of life,
confessing our failures, confessing our strife.
3. Teach us once again to be gardeners in peace;
all nature around us is ours but on lease;
your name we would hallow in all that we do,
fulfilling our calling, creating with you.

Call to Worship:

We invite the forests to worship with us.

The ferns and gigantic firs and cedars of the Pacific Coast reach to the heavens,
the moss and lichen of the great Canadian shield soften the cliffs and craigs,
while the sugar maples and mighty oaks are adopting their autumn wardrobe.

We call the great white pines to celebrate with us.

**We lift up the canopy of the Amazonian rainforest that provides us with oxygen,
and the mangroves and coconut palms that stabilize the beaches.**

We join all fauna of creation in our songs of praise,

We give thanks for the richness of the soils that bring forth the food that we eat.

We pray for the wounded forest bruised by over logging, and scarred by the increase of wild fires.

Help us, O God, to live with respect in your creation.

Silent Prayers

God in your love,

Hear our prayer.

Amen

Hymn: **MV#125** *When a Grain of Wheat (Hitotsubu no)*

When a grain of wheat,
into the ground has fallen,
into the cold ground,
and lies in waiting for the spring,
and lies in waiting for the spring;
this fallen grain will rise to life,
this fallen grain will rise to life!

@Hebrew Scripture: **Job 12: 7 - 10**

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In [God’s] hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.”

This is the witness of your people Israel!

Thanks be to God!

Psalm: **#104 VU P 827 Part Two with refrain (R)**

Reader: Maria Bybel

Refrain: Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

O God, how manifold are your works!

**With Wisdom at your side you made them all;
the earth is full of your Creatures. R**

There lies the great and mighty Sea,
teeming with living things both great and small.

**Upon it sail the ships, and there is Leviathan,
the monster you made to play in it.**

All these look to you,
to give them their food in due season

What you give them they gather up.

**When you open your hand,
you fill them with good things.**

But when you hide your face they despair.
When you take away their breath, they die,
and return to dust.

**But when you send out your spirit, they live again,
and you renew the face of the earth. R**

May your glory, O God, endure forever.

May you rejoice, O God, in your works.

When you look at the earth it trembles,
when you touch the mountains they smoke.

I will sing to God as long as I live.

I will praise my God while I have being. R

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 1:26–28

Reader: Maria Bybel

God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, And, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.” God created human beings; he created them godlike, Reflecting God’s nature. He created them male and female. God blessed them: Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.”

This is the witness of your people Israel!

Thanks be to God!

Hymn: MV # 135 *Called by Earth and Sky*

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

(Last time only)

called by earth and sky, called by earth and sky.

1. Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again. **R**

2. Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace. **R**

3. Precious these mountains, ancient sands;

vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song. **R**

4. Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one. **R**

Sermon Roots

Rev. Dr. Douglas Throop

Offertory Reflections: Acknowledging How Givings Grow into Lives Changed

Music for Spiritual Centering:

The Gift of Love - arr. Hal Hopson
Voices: MUC Choir
Piano: Alberto Santos

Silent Prayer:

The Prayer of Jesus

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn: VU#307 *Touch the Earth Lightly*

- 1.** Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
- 2.** We who endanger, who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!
- 3.** Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.
- 4.** God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the Sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.

Benediction:

Postlude:

Blackbird - John Lennon & Paul McCartney ,arr. Brad Mehldau
Piano: Alberto Santos

Reference and Information
for the week of September 14, 2025

- Today we invite you for coffee and conversation on Level 1 after the Service.
- September 21. We invite you for Lunch and to celebrate with all those who have a September Birthday.
- September 28. This Sunday is special. Please think with our Liturgical Colour of ORANGE, wear orange, and join us as we honour Truth and Reconciliation and present the Mohawk Bible.

Please consider giving to the church. Your gift will help serve our local community and far beyond. For that, we are grateful. You may leave your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you are at home, you can send a cheque, e-Transfer funds, or arrange for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). See details on giving at www.mountainsideunited.ca.

The service is livestreamed on Zoom on Sunday Mornings.

In the event of poor reception, the Service may be viewed later on our YouTube Channel:

Please visit our website for regular updates and more information!www.mountainsideunited.ca