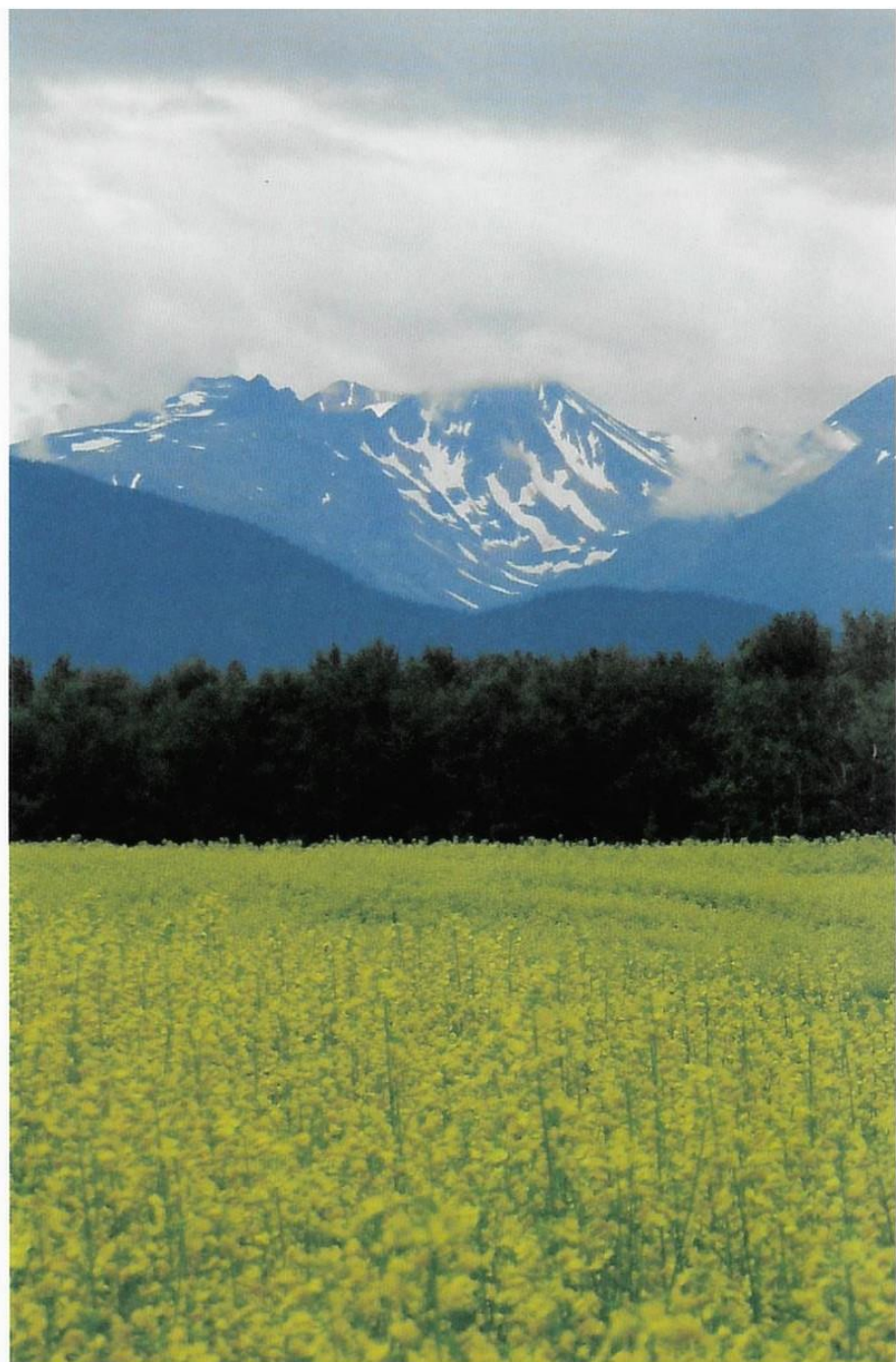




CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
July 19th, 2026 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: Rev. Daniel MacDonald
Minister of Music: John Scott
Lay Reader: Colin Mann
Greeters: Ivan & Sherrie Carey

Email: centralsecretary@bellaliant.com
VU: Voices United (red book)

Website: www.centralunitedlunenburg.ca
MV: More Voices (spiral-bound book)

We welcome and celebrate human diversity - including spirituality, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. Here, people of any faith or none can question and discover the sacred in life through openness, struggle, laughter, prayer and music.

Prelude

Gathering Music: *“Welcome Into This Place”*

The musical score is written on four staves in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and welcoming, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: Wel - come in - to this place. Wel - come in - to this bro - ken ves - sel. You de - sire to a - bide in the prais - es of Your peo - ple, so we lift our hands and we lift our hearts, as we of - fer up this praise un - to Your name.

Wel - come in - to this place. Wel - come in - to this
bro - ken ves - sel. You de - sire to a - bide in the
prais - es of Your peo - ple, so we lift our hands and we
lift our hearts, as we of - fer up this praise un - to Your name.

Words & Music
Orlando Juarez

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

In our breath, and in our speaking

The Spirit is with us.

In our waking and in our dreaming

The Spirit is with us.

In our gathering and in our worship

The Spirit is with us.

In our learning and in our living

The Spirit is with us.

Here and now. Always and forever.

The Spirit is with us.

Come, let's encounter her together.

Hymn: *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"*

VU #315

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgement of Land

A Prayer for Renewal:

Creation is bursting with goodness, Holy One.

Life is infused with your Spirit.

**Every tiny microbe and every complex organism
speaks to us of life's mystery and depth.**

**Every crashing wave and twittering creature,
invites us into relationship.**

And yet, we confess, so often we live in the shallows.

**So often our world extends no further than our fingertips,
our front steps, our cell phones.**

**Even as we long for deeper connection,
and creation groans for deeper relationship,
we reinforce the narrative**

**that we are all alone and on our own,
and that's the way it is.**

Free us from this isolating routine.

**Awaken us to the gift of connection and help us to notice
your Spirit pulsing at the heart of all things.**

**Broaden our understanding and deepen our appreciation
of life all around us, that we with Jacob might proclaim again:**

"Surely God is in this place! And I did not notice!"

Amen.

Time for Silent Reflection and Prayer

Words of Assurance

Hymn: *“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”*



Lord, let my heart be good soil, op-en to the seed of your

Word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where

love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard,

break the stone a-way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Scripture Reading:

First Testament: Genesis 28:10-19

Epistle: Romans 8:12-14

Sermon

Hymn:

"Ancient Words"



Ho - ly words long pre-served for our walk in this
 Ho - ly words of our faith hand-ed down to this

world, they re - sound with God's own heart. O let the
 age came to us through sac - ri - fice. O heed the

an-cient words im - part. Words of life, words of
 faith-ful words of Christ. Ho - ly words long pre

hope, give us strength, help us cope. In this
 served for our walk in this world, they re -

world where-e'er we roam an-cient words will guide us
 sound with God's own heart. Let the an - cient words im -

Chorus

home. An - cient words, ev - er true, chang-ing
 part.

me and chang-ing you. We have come with op - en

hearts, O let the an - cient words im - part.

Michael W. Smith

We Celebrate the Life and Work of our Community

We Share Our Offerings

Offertory Hymn: *"What Can I Do?"*

MV #191

Dedication of Our Gifts:

May these simple gifts, given in gratitude and hope,
enable us and others to share love, know peace,
experience wonder, encounter grace, reflect joy,
and believe in goodness each and every day of our lives.
In Jesus' name, we ask it. Amen.

Sung Invitation to Prayer

"Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying"

VU #400

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer



Cre - a - tor in heav - en hal - lowed be thy name;
(Our Fa - ther)



thy king - dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heav'n.



Give us this day our dail - y bread and for-give our sins



as we for-give those who sin a - gainst us.



And lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from ev - il.

(Cont'd next page)

For thine is the king - dom and thine is the pow - er

And the glo - ry for - ev - er, the glo - ry for - ev - er,

the glo - ry for ev - er. A - - men.

Closing Hymn: *“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”* **VU #481**

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude
