CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH

Example 2.1 Lunenburg, Nova Scotia September 14^{th} , $2025 - 2^{nd}$ Sunday in the Season of Creation

Minister: Rev. Daniel MacDonald

Minister of Music: John Scott
Lay Reader: Thelma Blinn

Greeters: Carolyn & Oliver Levy

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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

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer:

Creation groans, as forests burn, asking us to listen and to act.

We gather to listen and be moved.

Creation sighs, as critters suffer, foraging for shelter and for food.

We gather to listen and be moved.

Creation cries, as climate changes, and once green places become barren.

We gather to listen and be moved.

Today, may we listen. Today, may we hear.

Today, may we be moved to act with compassion and care.

Come, let us worship our God.

Let us pray:

The trees teach us how to breathe, the sea teaches us how to be calm, the sky teaches us how to soar, the earth teaches us how to live, and you, Holy One, teach us too — how to be faithful, how to be kind, how to be gentle, how to love. We come eager to hear your voice in our hearts, in our minds, and speaking through this community. Teach us again your lessons of life, that we might live together in a good and healing way. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn: "Let All Things Now Living" VU #242

Prayer for Renewal:

Fires burn, waters rise, habitats are destroyed, and our hearts are breaking, Creator God. Temperatures rise, crops wither, glaciers melt, and our hearts are breaking, Creator God. In the pain of the earth, and the heartache of its people, we hear your judgement, Creator God. We hear your anguish and lament. Break our hearts open at the sound of it Crack our souls open at the sight of it. Not that they might fall apart in grief, but that they might be filled with a spirit of renewed compassion for creation, and a renewed commitment to healing this earth. In the name of Jesus. who through sharing in the pain of the world, showed us the way to new life, we pray. Amen.

A Time for Silent Reflection and Prayer Words of Assurance

Hymn: "Come And Seek The Ways Of Wisdom" **MV** #10

Scripture Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 32:14-18

Second Reading: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-26a

Choir Anthem: "You Are Author And Lord Of Creation"

(trad. Nepalese, arr. Iona Community)

Sermon

Hymn: "Teach Me God To Wonder" VU #299

We Celebrate the Life and Work of our Community

We Share Our Offerings

Offertory Hymn: "For The Fruit Of All Creation" VU #227

Dedication of Our Gifts:
Your creation, Loving God, cries out for healing.
Bless these gifts we offer today
and inspire our own commitment,
that together we might bring meaningful
and practical healing to the earth.
Trusting in the power
of our individual and collective actions, we pray, Amen.

Sung Invitation to Prayer: "Spirit of Life" VU #381

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer (see insert)

Closing Hymn: "For The Healing Of The Nations" VU #678

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

Lord's Prayer

