

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Bethel United Church
Children's Sunday

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WORDS OF WELCOME!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Our next Communion Service will take place on November 29th.

The UCW are preparing for their very popular Christmas Bake Sale on Saturday December 5th. Advance cookie sales are now closed.

TUESDAYS: Chat and Chew in the church hall at 13:30.

THURSDAY: Zoom Prayer and Share at 10:00.

The next Official Board meeting will be on Sunday, November 22nd, following worship. Minutes of the last meeting are on the website. Please send your committee report or agenda item, to Linda Hamon.

INDIGENOUS WISDOM

QUIET REFLECTION

GATHERING MUSIC

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

"For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."
Amanda Gorman, National Youth Poet Laureate from her poem "The Hill We Climb"

Psalm 123, (*Responsive*, Psalms for Praying, Nan Merrill)

ONE: To You I lift up my spirit; You, who are enthroned in every heart! For, as the young child holds tightly the hand of its parent, as those in the throes of disease look to one who brings comfort,

ALL: ***So our spirits seek the Heart of Love, that we might find mercy and forgiveness.***
Have mercy on us, O Compassionate One, have mercy, that we might turn from our blind and ignorant ways.
Too long our souls have been veiled by fear and illusion.
Have mercy, lead us to the path of wholeness, that we may know the abiding Peace of the Beloved.

HUMBLE PRAYER

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN **VU 371** **"*Open My Eyes, That I May See*"**

1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

TIME TO WONDER

SCRIPTURE VERSE **VU 376** **"*Spirit of the Living God*"**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

Matthew 25: 14-30 NRSV

REFLECTION

HYMN **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 night-time 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.

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC

DOXOLOGY **VU 575 (vs 1)** **"*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*"**
I'm gonna live so [live so] God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! [anytime]
I'm gonna live so [live so] God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Gracious God, we thank you! You have blessed us in so many ways. Receive our many gifts and talents with love, bless them with grace and enliven our spirits to boldly offer ourselves to your Way of Love. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **VU 918**

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

SUNG VERSE **VU 400** ***"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"***

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Today we have special prayers for:

Joy	Eric	Robin	The Riley
Leah	Brynnley	Helen T.	Family
Liam	Edna	John T.	Linda P.
Janet	Bill	Lynda	Reid
Carol	Chris	Sarah	Leigh
Kim H.	Jennifer	Rick	Grace
Lainey	Sandy	Jim	The Hanna
James	Ellen & Art	Chris L.	family

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN **VU 635** **"*All the Way My Saviour Leads Me*"**

1 All the way my Saviour leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell,
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

2 All the way my Saviour leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see!

3 All the way my Saviour leads me; O the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed, immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages, 'Jesus led me all the way!'

CLOSING WORD *A Franciscan Blessing*

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.
May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.
May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.
May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

CHORAL BLESSING

VU 424 (vs 1) **"*May the God of Hope Go with Us*"**

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Refrain **Praying, let us work for peace;**
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

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