

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Guest Minister: Rev. Lynda Hodgins

Organist: Nola Wilson

Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 10 am

7th Sunday of Easter

Music as We Gather

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land:

As we gather, we acknowledge that we meet and live on the traditional territories of the Mississauga Anishinaabe People. We give thanks for their care for the land over thousands of years and for their deep spirituality and honouring of the Creator and the creation. May we live with respect in God's creation and in harmony with our neighbours.

Music as We Centre

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Opening Hymn: VU336 "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

- 1 Christ whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One We gather in the presence of the One who abandons no one. Come Holy Spirit, advocate and comforter

All All are welcome in this sacred space made holy through God's presence here with us. We gather as God's beloved leaving no one outside as we seek to better understand God radical acceptance and love.

One Let us open ourselves to God's spirit which creates, redeems and sustains us. Let us worship with open hearts.

Opening Prayer

All God, Source of all, we have come from many different places and we each carry our own unique burdens and hopes. Some of us come in joy and find worship and praise comes easily today. Others of us are afraid, carrying grief and fear. As we are, we come to you. Help us set aside our concerns and anything that might distract us from you, help us rest into this time of worship open to your transforming presence so we can feel the renewal of your spirit. In the strong name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

One: The promise of an Easter faith tells us the Holy loves and cherishes each one of us for who we are and all that we may become.

All: Through reflection, transformation, and action, we live our Easter faith.

First Lesson: Exodus 3:14-15, 33:18-23 *Marg Renwick*

^{3:14} God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM.^[a] This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

15 God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD,^[a] the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.

33:18 Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

19 And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 20 But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

21 Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. 22 When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

Responsive Selection: VU787 from Psalm 68

Led by Marg Renwick

Psalm 68

Refrain

Rory Cooney 1991

F C m7 F C7 Bb C/Bb Bb Cm C7 D m7 C7 Asus4 A D

God, in your good-ness, you have made a home for the poor. poor.

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One Arise, O God, and let your enemies be scattered;
let those who hate you flee before you.

**All Like drifting smoke disperse them;
like wax melting in the fire,
let the wicked perish at your presence, O God.**

One But let the righteous be glad and exult before you;
let them rejoice with exceeding joy.

**All Sing praises to God's holy name;
make a highway for the One who rides the clouds;
be joyful and exult in God's presence. R**

One Guardian of orphans, protector of widows,
O God, in your holy dwelling,

**All you give the lonely a home in which to live;
you lead the prisoners out to prosperity;
but the rebels must live in a wasteland.**

One When you went out at the head of your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

**All the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain
before you, God of Sinai, God of Israel.**

One You sent down a generous rain;
you refreshed your heritage when it languished.

**All There your people found a home,
which in your goodness you provided for the poor. R**

One Sing to God, dominions of the earth;
praise the One who has dominion,

**All the One who rides through the heavens,
even the primal heavens,
the One whose voice is the mighty thunder.**

One Acknowledge the power that is God's,
whose majesty is over Israel, whose strength is in the skies.

**All You are awesome, O God, as you leave your sanctuary,
bringing power and strength to your people.**

One Blessed are you, God of Israel.

All Blessed are you. R

Young at Heart Time:

"The God We Believe In"

Hymn: VU296

"This Is God's Wondrous World"

1 This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought

of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.

3 This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Meditation: *"The God We Don't Believe In"*

Music for Meditation

The New Creed:

One Let us stand as we are able and join together in a
statement of our communal faith...

**All 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.**

We Receive the Offering

Doxology: VU541 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One

Dedication of Our Gifts

Hymn: VU562

“Jesus Call Us”

- 1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, 'Christian, follow me.'
- 2 Long ago apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.
- 3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, 'Christian, love me more.'
- 4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
'Christian, love me more than these.'
- 5 Jesus calls us: by your mercies,
Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer

VU916

**All 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 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 for ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: VU217 “All Creatures of Our God and King”

- 1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
 hallelujah, hallelujah!
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 2 O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
 sing praises, hallelujah!
O rising morn, in praise rejoice;
O lights of evening, find a voice:
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 3 Earth, ever fertile, day by day
brings forth rich blessings on our way:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

4 And everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part:
sing praises, hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and yield up all your care:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

5 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: Let us go from this place knowing the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in celebration.

One: Let us go from this place living the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in love.

One: Let us go from this place sharing the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in peace.

One: Let us go in peace.

All: Peace be with us! Amen!

Music as the Worship Service Concludes

Regional Council Prayer Cycle

As church, we are called to pray for each other and for our
mission in the world for the week of May 21, 2023

Greenwood United Church, Pembroke

[East Central Ontario Regional Council]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD BANK SUNDAY- is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We invite you to bring items to support Kawartha Food Share. Boxes are located in Upper Wright Hall and back foyer [*exit to parking lot*]. If you wish to make a cash donation instead, we ask that you place money in a separate envelope clearly marked as “*Donation to Kawartha Food Share*” also include your name or envelope number. ***Please make cheques payable to: “Northminster United Church”.*** This can be placed on the offering plate. Thank you for your generous support!

Next date: June 11th

MEALS ON WHEELS LUNCHEON on Wednesday, May 31st at 12 noon.

Last year, Community Care dedicated volunteers delivered approximately 750 seniors and adults living with physical challenges in the City and County of Peterborough.

Have a lunch and support Meals on Wheels! For \$10.00, a boxed lunch will be delivered to Northminster United Church. The church will provide coffee/tea. Payment due in advance. **DEADLINE is May 23rd.** Please see Bev Sherwin or church office for further information.

TUESDAY COFFEE HOUR at Northminster United Church in Upper Wright Hall from 10:00 am to 11:00 am begins May 2nd and continues through June.

Tuesday, May 23rd at 1:00 pm at Northminster United Church in Upper Wright Hall, the family are having a gathering to remember Susan Lawrence. The funeral for Susan has already taken place.

Our Sunday School programme will conclude for the season on June 18th, 2023

Choir rehearsal continue Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm here at the church. Please come out and join an enthusiastic group of folks who love to sing and share their gift of music. The choir will go on summer hiatus towards the end of June.

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for May 21

Duty	<i>Barry Cowling</i>
Elevator	<i>Elgin Northey</i>
Greeters	<i>Kathy & Dave Thom</i> <i>Carol Doherty, Linda Munroe</i>
Scripture Reader	<i>Marg Renwick</i>
Congregational Elder	<i>Mary Hess Northey</i>
Sunday School	<i>Maggie Crawford</i>
Sound	<i>Bill VanTol / Alex Brunton/ Al Bartholomew</i>
Video	<i>Ron Kervin/Nelson Pickett</i>
Videographer	<i>Lynn Bartholomew</i>
Coffee Fellowship (May)	<i>Worship Committee</i>
Coffee Fellowship (June)	<i>Affirming Committee</i>