

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Sunday, September 25, 2022

Creation Time 3

Music as We Gather

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Welcome, Celebrations, Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: We are called by the Holy to reclaim our role as stewards of creation.

All: We are called to hear creation's cries.

One: We are not only stewards of creation but a part of it as well. Let us worship.

All: Let us worship together.

Opening Hymn: VU220 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health
and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

- 2 Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
 keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
 Have you not seen
 how all you needed has been
 met by God's gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work
 and defend us;
 surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us:
 ponder anew
 what the Almighty can do,
 who out of love will befriend us.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
 All that has life and breath come now with praises before
 him!
 Let the Amen
 sound from God's people again:
 gladly with praise we adore him.

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: As children of creation, we are loved and cherished, by the Holy.

All: When we acknowledge and learn from our mistakes, we begin the steps to reconciliation with the rest of creation.

One: In the name of Jesus...

All: Amen.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 *(Josie Cameron)*

^{32:1} The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. ² At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, ³ where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

⁶ Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me: ⁷ Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.'"
⁸ Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard,

in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, “Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.” Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹ And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and weighed out the silver to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰ I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the silver on scales. ¹¹ Then I took the sealed deed of purchase containing the terms and conditions and the open copy, ¹² and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. ¹³ In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, ¹⁴ “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.”

Psalm Selection (Sung): VU808

“On Eagle’s Wings”
(from Psalm 91)

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of our God,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: 'My refuge,
my Rock in whom I trust.'
- R *'And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of my hand.'*
- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under God's wings your refuge,
God's faithfulness your shield. R
- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. R

4 For to God's angels is given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

'And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of my hand.'

'And hold you, hold you in the palm
of my hand.'

Young at Heart Time:

"Hidden in the Snowbank"

Gospel Lesson: Luke 16:19-31

(Josie Cameron)

16:19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

Reader: As we listen to the words from our scripture...
All: ...may we hear the stories from our faith history that inspire us to embrace the promise and new life shared with us as we live and love together in faith.

Reader: In the name of Jesus...
All: ...Amen.

Hymn: VU226 (Tune VU81) "For the Beauty of the Earth"

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light, R
- 3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, R
- 4 For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven, R

Meditation: "Symbols"

Music for Meditation

The New Creed:

One: Let's share together in the New Creed:

**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. Amen.**

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: VU580

"Faith of Our Fathers"

- 1 Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
whene'er we hear that glorious word:
faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.
- 2 Faith of our mothers, daring faith,
your work for Christ is love revealed,
spreading God's word from pole to pole,
making love known and freedom real:
faith of our mothers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.

- 3 Faith of our sisters, brothers too,
who still must bear oppression's might,
raising on high, in prisons dark,
the cross of Christ still burning bright:
faith for today, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.
- 4 Faith born of God, O call us yet;
bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross
until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.

An Affirm Minute

Affirming Committee
"Signposts for our Faith"

As Christians we live in a world of story and symbol. The story of God's love for us.

Symbols and signs bring this story into focus for us and help us to live out the story of our faith as we make our journey in God's world. Central to our Christian faith is the cross of Jesus that demonstrates God's love for us.

As you look around our sanctuary you will see beautiful stained glass that tells a story; the candle; the baptismal font, communion table, chalice and bread plate are vessels reminding us of our sacramental faith.

Flags adorn our walls such as the Orange flag reminding us that Every Child Matters. Pride flags and our Pride Candle remind us that we are an inclusive community of faith where all are welcome.

Today we celebrate the gift and presentation of the Progress Pride flag which celebrates the diversity of the 2SpiritLGBTQI+ community and calls for a more inclusive society.

The Progress Pride flag is a redesign of the iconic rainbow flag. The five colored chevron has been added to the Rainbow flag to place a greater emphasis on inclusion and progression.

As Nola and Geoff hold up the Progress Pride flag, we see the chevron that includes black and brown stripes to represent marginalized black, brown and indigenous people of color, along

with the colors pink, light blue and white, which includes the transgendered community, as well as those living with AIDS.

We notice that the arrow points to the Right to show forward movement and reminds us that progress towards inclusivity still needs to be made from all places in our society.

As people of faith who live in God's world, let us remember our calling by Jesus to feed the hungry and support the poor and the widow, and to offer open doors, open hearts and open minds to welcome all people into God's house of prayer. In Jesus name. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer:

(a Paraphrase VU916)

One: Let us share together in a paraphrase of the Jesus Prayer...

**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: VU654

“All My Hope is Firmly Grounded”

- 1 All my hope is firmly grounded
in our great and living Lord;
who, whenever I most need him,
never fails to keep his word.
God I must wholly trust,
God the ever good and just.

- 2 Tell me, who can trust our nature,
human, weak, and insecure?
Which of all the airy castles
can the hurricane endure?
Built on sand, naught can stand
by our earthly wisdom planned.

- 3 But in every time and season,
out of love's abundant store,
God sustains the whole creation,
fount of life forevermore.
We who share earth and air
count on God's unfailing care.

- 4 Thank, O thank, our great Creator,
through God's only Son this day;
God alone, the heavenly potter,
made us out of earth and clay.
Quick to heed, strong in deed,
God shall all the people feed.

Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: As our time together comes to an end this day...

**All: ...the Spirit of the Creator stirs us to live faithfully
and love openly as we follow the call of the Holy.**

One: As we journey together with each other and our Creator,
may our reflections and discussions transform our actions
and attitudes as we live and love together in faith.

All: In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen and Amen!

Music as We Depart

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 September 25, 2022

Tweed St. John's United Church, Tweed

[East Central Ontario Regional Council]

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS-Sept 25

Duty	<i>Al Renwick</i>
Elevator	<i>Carrie Varga</i>
Ushers/Greeters	<i>Joan Findlay</i>
Scripture Reader	<i>Josie Cameron</i>
Congregational Elder	<i>Mary Hess Northey</i>
Sound	<i>Bill VanTol / Alex Brunton</i>
Video	<i>Ron Kervin/Nelson Pickett</i>
Videographer	<i>Jim Boothby</i>
Coffee Fellowship	<i>Finance</i>
Coffee Fellowship	<i>Mission & Outreach (October)</i>

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 in a separate envelope clearly marked with your name or envelope number and clearly marked "*Donation to Kawartha Food Share*" This can be placed on offering plate. Thank you for your generous support! Next date: October 9th.

NAME TAGS, we ask that you wear your name tags on Sundays, if you do not have a name tag, please contact the office. 705-748-4881.

Sunday, October 2nd, 2022 at 10 a.m. is "World Communion Sunday" and the "Affirming Celebration" with Guest Speaker, United Church Minister, Ruth Wood.