

Portions of the service of Holy Communion were written by Neryl McCullum [CMLA]

Everyone is invited to stay for a light continental breakfast following this service.



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Pilgrim
Uniting Church

8.00am
Morning Eucharist

Sunday, 22nd July, 2018

Pentecost 9
COCU48B

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Women and men of faith:

With what shall we come before God?

What shall we bring to please God?

Offerings, journeys, great acts, wise counsel of our own?

Sweat of our brow, cloth of our own making,

oceans of good intentions, rivers of unctuous flowing words?

People of truth:

our God has shown us what is good.

So let us walk humbly with our God.

People of God:

Our God has shown us what is required.

Justice and mercy become our offering.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving Shepherd God,

ever present and moving among your people,

draw us near to you:

that in place of hostility there may be peace;

in place of loneliness, compassion;

in place of aimlessness, direction;

and in place of sickness, healing;

through Christ Jesus, in whom you draw near to us. **Amen.**

PSALM FOR THE DAY

Psalm 89: 20-37

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In baptism we are claimed by God,
and given the gift of the Holy Spirit
that we may live as witnesses to Jesus Christ
and share his ministry in the world.

But we have not always lived as Christ's disciples.
We have failed to live out the generosity shown to us
in our own baptism by not extending God's grace
to all people and all creation:

God, have mercy. **God, have mercy.**

We have been indifferent to the suffering of others:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

In your mercy, pardon and restore us,
**so that bound together in the ministry of Christ
we may serve you with compassion and joy
all the days of our life. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Forgiveness is always present to us.
Jesus came, "preaching peace to those who are near,
and peace to those who are far off."

Now we "are no longer strangers,
but fellow citizens with the saints and members
of the household of God."

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN TiS 144 Lord, you have been our dwelling place

BIBLE READINGS: Ephesians 2: 11-22
Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

WITNESS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Today God, we pray for those who suffer
under the oppression of leaders
who consider themselves
superior to their people.

We pray that those who suffer
may not lose hope that a day can
and will come when all people will gather
together in freedom and peace.

The cup is lifted

**We drink this cup as an act of faith,
believing that brokenness is not the end of the story,
but that forgiveness is real
and that the healing power of life
reconciles and re-creates all things anew.**

So the table is set and the meal is ready,
come take your place.

Come with your questions and your answers.

Come with your flaws and imperfections.

Come because you love a little and are open to loving more.

Come because God longs to be in relationship with you.

All is now ready, receive the gifts of God.

Communion is shared

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

With these gifts of bread and wine
you sustain and strengthen us on our journey of faith.
We remember that your promise of abundant life
is not a promise that we will live sheltered lives,
free from all harm, but the promise that we will live
intricate, rich and full lives.

We give you thanks. Amen.

HYMN TiS 681 Lord let me see

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go out, remembering all God has done for you.
Break down the walls of hostility,
proclaim peace,
have compassion for all,
and don't forget to take time for yourself also.

And may God be with you wherever you go;
may Christ Jesus heal you and replenish you;
and may the Holy Spirit encircle you and strengthen you.
The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The sign of the peace is exchanged.

The nourishment provided here is rich,
and those who gather around participate in
one of the great dining experiences, for here at this table,
the hungry are fed, strangers become friends,
sadnesses are turned around and love proves stronger than death.

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us open our hearts.

We open our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With joyful hearts we give thanks to God,

It is the fitting thing to do,

for God has loved us in our weakness,

stood by us in our foolishness

and believed in us, even when we have turned away.

So together with all of creation

we sing to the one who has provided all we need:

Holy, holy, holy God,

of all that is, all that was and all that will be,

heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Come Holy Spirit,

in this act of eating bread and drinking wine,

flow in and around us,

open our eyes to the brokenness of the world,

fill our hearts with love for our neighbours,

motivate us to become the hands and feet of God,

and ready us to take our role as agents of change and

reconciliation.

The bread is broken

We eat this bread and acknowledge our place in a broken world.

We pray also for those who would divide people
with false divisions based on colour,
gender, nationality, sexuality.

We pray for all who live out of the lie

that some people have thoughts or practices

or ways of being that are inferior to others,

and that some people should make the decisions

for how other people should live.

We pray that we might all learn to rejoice

in the interconnectedness

of people as one community of humanity,

with much to teach and learn from each other. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

HYMN TiS 524 Come, risen Lord

During the singing of this hymn, we will receive our offering for the work of the church in the world.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, your goodness to us is beyond measure.

Your love for us is without limits.

Every good gift comes from you.

These small offerings that we make here, now,

we dedicate to building a world

where everyone experiences your goodness

beyond measure and overflowing. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

This table is not set for an illustrious banquet, it is sparsely set

– one cup, one plate – but it is a glorious setting.

This food is not fine dining, it is food at its simplest

– bread and wine – but it is an extravagant feast.

This meal is not the exclusive domain of a knowing few,

this table is open to all.