



**WELCOME TO EMMANUEL
UNITED CHURCH**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Food Sunday October 15, 2017**

The Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST & AFFIRMING CANDLES

- ELI AND TOMMY LINCOLN

WELCOME

Welcome to this sacred space where each and every one is valued and we embrace all status, age, origins, abilities, gender identities, sexual orientations, questions or doubts. Welcome to all who need strength, seek healing and look for a place to call home. God's love, peace and justice are offered to all.

THE LIFE & WORK OF OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

HYMN: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty* VU 315

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In rural and urban areas, in spring and fall, in a garden and around a table,

All: the source of the whole creation is with us always.

One: The Holy One is constantly revealed through water, trees, stars and animals.

All: We are fed and nurtured by the fruits of the land and each other's kindness.

One: We come to encounter you in this sacred place and time.

All: We come to worship you, O God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: O Creator God,
in the stories and prayers of scripture, we hear the longing of our ancestors for a world of justice, a world where those who are in poverty are fed, and strangers are welcomed. Your people hunger and thirst for righteousness and you satisfy this hunger with moments of awareness in our daily life.

All: Remind us that you have called us to feed those in poverty, to care for those bereaved, and to welcome strangers and refugees. We ask in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen. †

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Food Sovereignty

HYMN: *When I Needed a Neighbour*

VU 600

When I needed a neighbour, were you there,
were you there?

When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,
were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there,
were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

Wherever you travel I'll be there,
I'll be there,
wherever you travel I'll be there.
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.

A TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

HYMN: *You Are Holy*

MV 45

You are holy,
you show us the way,
you are holy,
you show us the way.

You are holy,
show us,
you show us,
you show us the way.

You are freedom,
you show us the way,
you are freedom,
you show us the way.

You are freedom,
show us,
you show us,
you show us the way.

You are justice,
you show us the way,
you are justice,
you show us the way.

You are justice,

show us,
you show us,
you show us the way.

Reading from the Bible

FIRST READING: THE BOOK OF ISAIAH 25: 1-9

God promises to host for all people a feast.

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

SECOND READING: THE BOOK OF EXODUS 32: 1-14

While Moses is in private conversation with God, the people build a golden calf.

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, 'Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' Aaron said

to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.’ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, ‘O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

ANTHEM: SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST

BY LLOYD LARSON

SERMON

HYMN: *All Who Hunger*

VU 460

All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering.
Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
TASTE AND SEE THAT GOD IS GOOD.

Responding with Prayer & Thanksgiving

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS

**PRESENTATION HYMN: *FOR ALL YOUR GOODNESS, GOD* VU
549**

**For all your goodness, God,
we give you thanks.
Thanks for the food we eat,
and for the friends we meet;
for each new day we greet,
we give you thanks.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

921

One: O Holy God, we humbly pray,

All: we are not alone. We live in your world.

One: We pray for the health of the earth, upon which all of life depends. We pray for all who touch the earth as farmers, miners, foresters, fishers, and backyard gardeners, that we all may remember that you are with us, and that this is your world.

All: We are called to be the church.

One: We pray for all who gather in your name, who seek to do your will. May we, like seeds, be full of promise, be whole, and grow in fertile soil as examples of your goodness in your world.

All: We are called to celebrate God's presence.

One: We are amazed by your constancy! We pray for awareness of your presence in the world, in the beauty of flowers, the singing of birds, the scents and flavours of foods, in our tingling of feelings.

All: We are called to live with respect in Creation.

We understand that we are just one part of the balance of your creation. We pray that we may understand how to live respectfully with all life here. May we learn to live interdependently and justly with our neighbours.

All: We are called to love and serve others.

We, now, are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We pray for the caregivers, whose kindness, mercy, and compassion demonstrate your love. We pray for those who suffer, who are oppressed, who are marginalized. May we, like seeds planted in good soil, receive what is needed to live meaningful lives that serve you.

All: We are called to seek justice and resist evil.

One: We live in a world of conflict and injustice. May we recognize opportunities to build peace and reconciliation. We pray for the peacemakers and justice-seekers who bring your message of peace, love, and holy wisdom through courageous and inspiring actions.

All: We are called to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

One: We are inspired by Jesus, a seed of love, who demonstrated compassion through his actions, educated for justice through his parables, and is our living hope through his death.

And God, we offer the following prayers...

All: **In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. †¹**

HYMN: *I See a New Heaven*

VU 713

Refrain:

I see a new heaven.

I see a new earth

as the old one will pass away,

where the fountain of life flows

and without price goes

to all people who abide in the land.

There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,
the Tree of Life will be. R

There, there where death dies and our lives are born again,
body and soul, struggling but whole
like flowers after the rain. R

There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.
There where the night, bearing new light,
reveals the promise of love. R

There, there where we work with the love of
healing hands.

Labour we must, true to our trust
to build a promised new land.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSING: THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

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† written by Wendy MacLean, “**Gathering**, Pentecost 2, 2017”, p. 44.
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†¹ written by Margaret Tusz-King, “**Mandate**, November 2014”, p. 44.
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Ecumenical Prayer Partner: Through every week of the year, our prayers affirm our solidarity with neighbours all over the world. This week we pray for Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

Prayer

A clipboard for prayer concerns will be circulated, if you wish, add a line, printing clearly, then pass it on. It is also available in the foyer before each service.

A Prayer Box is available for individuals to write requests for personal prayers. It is located on the Prayer Table at the front of the sanctuary.

Prayer requests are treated with respect and confidentiality.