



**WELCOME TO
EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH**
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026

The Gathering

Prelude:

Acknowledging the Territory

How do our actions show respect and honour Indigenous people and the deep connection they have with this land?

As we begin our service, we reflect on the land where we are gathered. Land acknowledgements aren't like a prayer to start the service. They are an opportunity for all of us to reflect on how we have come to be here and on the people who were here for thousands of years before us. They are an opportunity for us to acknowledge with sincerity and respect, the relationship that exists between indigenous peoples and their traditional territories. As we worship here today, let us be conscious that we are worshiping on unceded territory. We open ourselves to continual learning and work towards a reciprocal relationship that grows from a place of respect and a desire for understanding.

Hymn:

Like a Healing Stream

MV 144

Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candles:

We light this candle as a symbol of the light of Christ here with us today; a light which alleviates our fears and which shines in each one of us, no matter where we are.

We light this Affirm candle to acknowledge that the light of the Divine shines in every person, each beautiful in their uniqueness.

Responsive Welcome

Welcome

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, siblings, youth, couples and single people.

Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace and justice.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn:

Like a Rock

MV 92

Call to Worship:

Surely God's salvation is at hand.

Draw near to God and God will draw near to you.

Come, let us hear what God will speak,

For God will speak peace to God's people, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer:

**O God with us, your word is near, on our lips and in our hearts.
In this moment, you come to us not as fire, storm, or quaking ground, but as the intimacy of our very breath, the sound of sheer silence.**

**Be present in our places of fear,
speak stillness to our trembling hearts,
minister to us with bread and water and rest.**

**Then send us from that rest
to be present with all who long
for the beautiful promise of your good news
and the serenity of your steadfast love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(Children come forward while the song is played)

Hymn: *Circle Song*

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand.

Come and join the circle, come and be my friend.

Gather round and see, what the world can be.

Come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me.

Children's Message:

Amelia

Hymn:

Jesus, Friend of Little Children

VU 340

(Children leave for Sunday school)

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture: **Matthew 14:22-33**

Special Music: ***God So Loved the World*** *by John Stainer*
Piano: Abi Sanchez
Voice: Jon Jones

Meditation: **The Mystic Presence that Comes with Faith**

Quiet Reflection and Prayer

Hymn: ***Will Your Anchor Hold?*** **VU 675**

Call to Offering:

O weary souls with seedling faith, we have been invited to rest and to trust. Will you, like Jesus, find space in your life to pray before the storm comes? Will you, like the disciples, learn to trust the one who draws near to you?

Prayer of Dedication:

Gracious and Loving God, we praise you in this hour for giving to us what is good. In turn, we give generously as we are able, that we might share your good gifts and proclaim your good news. Bless what we give, whatever we give, wherever we give. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Lord's Prayer (sung): **VU 960**

The Life and Work of our Community of Faith

Hymn: ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus*** **VU 664**

Commissioning:

Go out with beautiful feet!

We go forth to proclaim the good news.

We proclaim a God who draws near.

**God says, "Take heart;
do not be afraid."**

Thanks be to God.

Blessing:

Postlude:

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Resources adapted for this service of worship:

David Gambrill, “Proper 14,” *In: Connections: Worship Companion (Year A, Volume 2)* Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2022, p.p. 103-109.

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This week, the office will be open from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm on Monday and Tuesday and closed the rest of the week.

Today our Lay Reader is Chris Roy. Thank you to our ushers, lemonade hosts, the tech team, decorators, and all the people that make the life and work of the church possible.

Welcome to Emmanuel! If you are a newcomer or visitor, we invite you to sign our **Guest Book** and join us in a time of fellowship in the CE Hall following worship.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Brian Read on the death of his wife, Darlene Read. A memorial service will be held at Emmanuel on August 29th at 11:00 am.

Join **Let’s Talk Tuesday**’s conversation group on Zoom. This week we will talk about our favourite places in the world. Where have you travelled or lived that hold special meaning to you? Why do these special places return to your heart?

Bazaar Craft Workshops run every Tuesday from 1-3pm this summer. Come by and help to make goods to decorate and sell this winter!

EUC’s Canoe Camp will run this week; on Monday and Tuesday campers will be in the church getting to know each other and preparing their meals for the trip. On Wednesday, they will depart for their great outdoor adventure, paddling across Lac La Pêche and staying at their usual campsite. Campers will return on Friday; bug bitten, tired, and having had a taste of the serenity that being deep in the woods and on the water can provide.

Grocery Cards will be sold on August 16th after next week’s service.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 9 Worship Service Lemonade and Conversation	10:00 am 11:00 am	Sanctuary C.E. Hall
Monday, August 10 EUC Canoe Camp Christian Meditation	9:30 am – 3:30 pm 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	C.E. Hall Zoom
Tuesday, August 11 EUC Canoe Camp Let’s Talk Tuesdays Bazaar Crafting Workshop	9:30 am – 3:30 pm 10:00 am – 11:00 am 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	C.E. Hall Zoom Lounge
Wednesday, August 12 EUC Canoe Camp Quilting Property & Grounds Meeting	8:30 am – 10:00 am 10:00 am – 3:00 pm 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Kitchen C.E. Hall/Lounge Zoom
Thursday, August 13 Tai Chi Al Anon	10:00 am – 12:00 pm 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	C.E. Hall C.E. Hall
Friday, August 14 Blood Drive	9:30 am – 4:30 pm	Sanctuary
Saturday, August 15		
Sunday, August 16 Worship Lemonade and Conversation Grocery Card Sales	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am	Sanctuary C.E. Hall C.E. Hall