



Trinity United Church

3555 5th Ave. Prince George, BC V2M 1K8
250.563.9167 – office@TrinityPG.ca
www.TrinityPG.ca



You are...Wanted...Included...Affirmed

Sunday, September 27, 2020, 10:00am

Theme: Season of Creation: River Sunday

✠ indicates stand as you are able

Bold indicates participation by the people

MV = More Voices

VU = Voices United

Core Values: Living Faith - Inclusive Fellowship - Joyful Service - Anti-Racist

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

In this week's readings, we witness God's interaction with creation through water, from covenanting to prevent annihilating floods to providing eternal life-giving water. The texts remind us of the power of water and God. They invite us to recognize the importance of water and seek ways to protect it as a means of honouring God. *What is your relationship with water? What affect does it have on you? When was the last time you spent time just listening to water?*

WELCOME & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Welcome to this service of worship. We begin by acknowledging the traditional territory upon which we gather this morning. For many thousands of years, the Lheidli T'enneh have sought to walk gently on this land. We seek a renewed relationship with both the Indigenous and Metis Peoples, one based in honour, deep respect, and Right Relations.

LIFE & MINISTRY

CHRIST CANDLE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God, let us gather by the river of life.

All: We come to the river with our whole selves.

One: In our sorrow,

All: the river offers comfort.

One: In our joy,

All: the river rejoices with us.

One: In our loneliness,

All: the river provides companionship.

One: In our uncertainty and pain,

All: the river offers new life.

One: Let us celebrate together the great gift of water God has given us.

All: Thanks be to God.

✠SEASONAL HYMN: Morning Has Broken

VU#409

GATHERING PRAYER (Responsive)

God, giver of life, We gather today acknowledging the harm we have done to your creation and one another.

We pollute the rivers and endanger the creatures within them, rather than honouring their sacredness.

We seek control and have power over the waters, rather than respecting their might.

We overlook the many enslaved and vulnerable lost in the waters, rather than acknowledging our role in this violence.

We focus on our own desires, rather than seeing how they impact the world around us.

We come yearning to be refreshed and replenished by the water of life, so that we might seek ways to honour you better and all of creation.

Forgive us for the injury we have caused. Inspire us in seeking new ways to participate in and with your creation. Renew us with your life-giving water. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

One: God invites us to come to the water in our entirety, with our flaws and questions, gifts and joys. May this water remind us of God's promise at our baptism – we are forgiven, loved children of God. May this promise help us strive to be better stewards of God's love with one another and all of creation.

All: In the waters of creation we are made new. Each of us is reconciled healed and loved by God for who we are and not what we've done. Together we are wanted, included, and affirmed in God's grace.

Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 22:1-5

(Lectionary@Home: Genesis 8:20, 9:12-27; Psalm 04:27-33; & Matthew 28:1-10)

Reader: This is part of our Christian story.

Many: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: Down to the River to Pray
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SERMON God, Close at Hand

WE RESPOND

†HYMN River Running in You and Me **MV#163**

PASTORAL PRAYERS & The Prayer of Jesus **VU#960**

INVITATION TO RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS
GATHERING OUR GIFTS

†OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

God of transformation, We give thanks for your continued promise to care for and sustain all of creation. Help us to follow your example, raising our concern and care for one another and all of creation. Amen.

WE SERVE

†COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION

†HYMN Go Make a Difference **MV#209**

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: *Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier; Worship Assistant – Holly Lee; Pianists – Angela Alba and Vic Steblin; Choir Director – Erica Skowron; Associate Choir Director – Diane Kjorven; Adult Choir; Digital Ministry – Rebecca Fillier and Shannon Carson.*