

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

All are invited to come to this feast where there is enough—
enough room around the table, enough grace for all,
No matter what your journey has been—
Indeed, where *you are enough*.

You need only be hungry. That's it.
Hungry for love, for justice, for change, for reconciliation,
for whatever your heart yearns for.
You can even just be hungry for food...
for the bread of life or just for bread.

God knows what you need.
Come and receive it, and by this, be inspired to offer it to the world.

Let this sharing with each other form us to go and do likewise outside this place.
Jesus is with us.

Jesus is with us now.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks for the bounty that is life.

It is right and good to want this feast for all of creation.

It is good to cry out for the waters of justice to roll down
bringing heaven on earth,
watering it with God's will for love-soaked humanity since creation began.
For God continues to stand with and for all peoples.
And so, we join with all the company of heaven:

New birth for creation broke forth upon us in Jesus.
Your Spirit anointed him
to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

In these acts of love and justice, we see
the birth of our call as church
to let the waters of justice roll,
knowing we have been delivered from death
through a covenant of water and the Spirit.

In this moment, we remember all who suffer in our day, especially those affected by
the ongoing trauma of being displaced. Those who continue to have their homes
threatened by wildfires. Those living with very real threats to their livelihoods. Those
who believe there is no place for them at this table.
Imagine how Jesus would respond to them.

In this silence, I invite you to call to mind and heart,
remembering to God the people and places, known and unknown,
that need our prayers, that so desperately need a place at our table of love.

[silence]

Just as he said it that last night with his disciples,
Jesus says to us “Come, gather around my friends.”
This common bread at our table is much more than it seems.
This is the brokenness of the world and I feel it as my body.
Whenever there is suffering, I suffer with you. I am broken for you.

This common cup at our table is much more than it seems.
Jesus reminds us that the blood of innocent ones is too often shed at the hands of
oppressors.
Whenever there is suffering, I suffer with you. I am poured out for you.
We proclaim this truth:

Death is part of life.

Christ has died.

But death will not have the last word.

Christ has risen!

And suffering will end.

Christ will come again...

...and again and again, every time suffering is alleviated,
comfort is given,
food is offered,
hope is restored.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this body gathered here
and on our union with each other and with these gifts of bread and cup.
May we become your body for the sake of a world
where justice rolls down like an ever-flowing stream.

All praise to God, Creator of Love!
All praise to Jesus, Love Incarnate!
All praise to Spirit, Love in Action!

THE INVITATION

SHARING COMMUNION

One: The bread of solidarity

Response: Amen.

One: The cup of God's blessing and hope.

Response: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

For the gift of Your love offered,

we give thanks.

For the way in which our lives will become your work in the world,

we give thanks.

For the gift of this community gathered and working together,

we give thanks.

For the ways in which we will show of love, inclusion, and affirmation,

We give thanks. Amen.





Trinity United Church

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

Sunday, September 10, 2023 - 10:00 am

Theme: Courageous Daughters of Zelophehad

† indicates stand as you are able

MV = More Voices

Bold indicates participation by the people

VU = Voices United

Core Values: Living Faith - Inclusive Fellowship
Joyful Service – Being Anti-Racist – Affirming All

GATHERING AS COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

WELCOME & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hadih, welcome in the name of The Christ.

All: Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Ancestral and unceded lands of the Lheidli T'enneh people.

Welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace, and this holy sanctuary. This place where we discern how to live into the way of Jesus.

All: We gather this morning to share in song, word, and prayer, to publicly, intentionally, and explicitly affirm that we are all an expression of the divine's holy light.

Be welcomed.

All: Be present.

Be a blessing.

LIFE & MINISTRY (Announcements)

THE PEACE OF CHRIST SHARED WITH ALL

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

GROUNDING SONG:

And on This Path

MV#8

LIGHT OF CHRIST AND RECONCILIATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)



We live in the echo of a million stories: of generations past and those yet to come.

**In this place, we tangle past and future,
now and then, memory and vision.**

In this place we worship

the one whose story we inherit keeping it alive
in word and song and story.

Let us worship together.

GATHERING PRAYER (Unison)

Holy One, we marvel at the courage of some to speak out about the injustice they've experienced and how systems need to change. We're humbled by their cry for justice and astounded when it is achieved. It reminds us that nothing is impossible when our efforts are grounded in you. Amid increasing disparity and the lines between us and them becoming deeper and harder, remind us of your call to radical inclusivity and a love that moves from the margins inward and not the other way around. Amen.

AFFIRMING GODS LOVE AND GRACE

Reconciling, healing, loved, and freed,

Each of us is a piece of God's embodied Spirit

Filled with

Wonder

Hope,

Passion,

Faith.

Wherever we have been and wherever we may go tomorrow, know this:

Right here, right now, God loves you with a love so deep and so broad

That anything is possible.

With God's grace and love, we too can dare resurrection in our lives. As people created in the full complexity of the image of God, we too can embody reconciliation and healing in the world.

† HYMN:

And Still We Rise

Projected

Words: © 2016 Jann Aldredge-Clanton. From Inclusive Songs for Resistance & Social Action (Eakin Press, 2018). Based on the poem "And still I rise" by Maya Angelou. Tune: DARWALL 148th VU#213

A STORY FOR THE AGES

(Lectionary@Home: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149:1-9; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20)

FOCUS READINGS: Numbers 27:1-11 (New Revised Version Updated)

Reader: In these words, the Holy becomes known.

Many: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *Nearer My God to Thee*

SERMON: The Cry Continues

WE RESPOND

† HYMN: *Draw the Circle Wide* **MV#145**

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, OURSELVES & SPOKEN PRAYER OF JESUS

BEING THE CHURCH THROUGH SERVICE

SHARING OUR GIFTS FOR MINISTRY

†OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

Creator, bless what we have to give as a means to bring about your justice in the world. Bless our bodies with a sight to notice the people who are too often ignored, dismissed, or labelled unimportant; our hearing to listen well to their stories and hear the truth they contain; our smelling to sniff out where something is wrong; our touch, to reach out as Christ did, and incarnation of your love, embracing all who long to meet a God who meets us where we are, how we are, through imperfect people like us. Amen.

† HYMN: *I Come with Joy* **VU#477**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

†COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

†HYMN *Soil of God, You and I* (V.1&3) **MV#174**

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: *Worship Leader – Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier; Worship Assistant –Don Homan -Pianist – Vic Steblin; Choir Director – Erica Skowron; Associate Choir Director – Diane Kjorven; Soloist: Diane Kjorven: Adult Choir; Greeter: Digital Ministry – Rebecca Fillier and Shannon Carson*

