

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

ONE: Heaven declares God's glory.

ALL: The sky proclaims God's handiwork.

ONE: Without speech or words or even voice

ALL: still the sound fills all the universe with this proclamation:

ONE: Our Creator is good and loving.

ALL: Our Creator is indeed good and loving!

And so we gather to celebrate the goodness of God,
who has made the world and all that is in it.
From the beginning, God set forth patterns
that remind us of God's care at every turning:
night becomes day,
trees grow tall and birds soar,
fish swim and dolphins play,
Moose and deer fill the forests.

Day after day, we hear the call of God
to care for this amazing Earth
and its wondrous creatures.
Sometimes we care;
too often, we do not.

Caught up in our own concerns
we are sometimes careless with what God
has entrusted to us,
and we – as well as other parts of our creation – groan.
Yet God's love continues to nurture and sustain.
In the midst of our ignorance,
still Christ comes to us and offers
a word of promise,
a reminder that God's love is greater
than all our failures and shortcomings.
And so we give thanks:

**ALL: Holy God! Wondrous God!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna! Glory! Praise!

**Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of our God.**

Hosanna! Glory! Praise!

We remember how Jesus,
beloved child of God,
even in the face of betrayal, torture, and death,
still gathered with closest friends
and shared the Passover meal with them.
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God,
broke it, and passed it around the table.
"Take this and eat it," Jesus said,
"and remember me."

ALL: We remember you.

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine
and offered thanks to God.
"Take this and drink from it," Jesus said,
"and remember me."

ALL: We remember you.

As you invited us to be your guests,
so now do we invite you to remain close to us
in this meal and always.

When we are afraid,
may the memory of this table sustain us.

When we are uncertain,
may the memory of this table ground us in your love.

When we feel unworthy,
may the memory of this table remind us that we are created in
your image.

When we feel cut off from the world and those around us,
may the memory of this table remind us

that we are never alone.

INVITATION

SHARING THE MEAL

Server: The bread of heaven.

Response: Amen.

Server: The cup of blessing.

Response: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

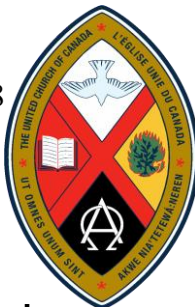
May the actions of communion re-member us with one another and with you, O God. May the diversity of bread and grapes remind us of the diversity within the church. May these simple reminders of our interconnectedness enable us to live out your call to a living faith, an inclusive fellowship, and joyful service. Amen.





Trinity United Church

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

Sunday, October 1, 2023 - 10:00

**Theme: Work with Me & Orange Shirt Sunday
World Wide Communion**

† 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: *Take Off Your Shoes*
LIGHT OF CHRIST AND RECONCILIATION

Projected

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Let us incline our ears

All: to the story of our God.

Leader: In stories of old, in parables anew,

All: may we find the teaching of God.

Leader: May we be ever refreshed,

All: by the abundant Word of life flowing like rivers of water from the generosity of God.

Leader: Let us worship God,

All: as one people united in love.

GATHERING PRAYER (Unison)

God of boundless love and unlimited grace, you turn the world inside-out and upside-down or is it the right way around? Jesus speaks to us of the first being last and the last being first. We wonder what it means to lose life to gain life. Paul calls us to feed our enemies and confound them with kindness. Show us the messy and marvellous path of love that will turn us inside-out and upside-down and that it finally leads us the right way around to you. Amen.

AFFIRMING GODS LOVE AND GRACE

The sheer breadth of creation is astounding. Compared to it humanity is but a speck of dust.... Creator calls us into a loving relationship with all the exists, what is seen and unseen, through a spirit as close as our breath.

We too will burst into song for a love so deep that we are made whole in the fullness of divine expression. One with the Holy as we walk in the way of Christ.

† HYMN:

For the Beauty of the Earth

VU#226

A STORY FOR THE AGES

(Lectionary@Home: Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4,12-16 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32)

FOCUS READINGS: Exodus 17:1-7 (Based on The Voice)

Reader: The entire community of Israel travelled in stages out of the desert of Sin, just as the Eternal instructed. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water there to quench their thirst. *Once again*, the people complained to Moses.

Congregation: Give us water to drink! We're thirsty.

Reader: Why do you aim your complaints at me? Why are you testing the Eternal One? But the people were so thirsty for water, they complained to Moses *and leveled accusations against him*.

Congregation: Why did you lead us out of Egypt? Was it to kill *all of us*—our children and livestock included—with this thirst?

Reader: In these words, the Holy becomes known.

Many: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *Remember the Lord*

SERMON: *Water – It's That Simple*

WE RESPOND

† HYMN: *When We Are Living* **VU#581**

**PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, OURSELVES & SPOKEN PRAYER
OF JESUS**

BEING THE CHURCH THROUGH SERVICE

SHARING OUR GIFTS FOR MINISTRY

†OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

Even our best intentions can be stumbling blocks, yet you, O God can use even our half-hearted attempts, our half-baked schemes, and our well-meaning failures. You take them and us and transform them into acts of ministry, into living water that heals community and brings about oneness in you. Bless what we have to offer and use us to be expressions of your love in the world. Amen.

† HYMN: *Eat This Bread and Never Hunger* **VU#471**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION *(See Insert)*

†COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

†HYMN *We Praise You for the Sun* **VU#225**

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: *Worship Leader – Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier; Worship Assistant – Linda Schmidt; Pianist – Vic Steblin; Choir Director – Erica Skowron; Associate Choir Director – Diane Kjørven; Adult Choir; Digital Ministry – Rebecca Fillier and Friend*

