

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, July 23, 2023

Welcoming and Announcements

Centring Music

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jesus, as light of the world, shines so the world can see.

As we see the candle...

may our love shine out,

As we see each other;...

may our hearts expand.

As our neighbours see us...

may they see the Christ.

Opening Hymn: Let Us Build a House (More Voices 1)

(Please stand as you are able)

Words and music: Marty Haugen

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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Ecclesial

Opening Prayer

Creator God, help us to deepen our awareness
of who we are as your people. May we celebrate
the diversity of this Faith Community and strengthen
our Ministry in the world and in our neighbourhood. Amen.

Missional

A Time to Wonder

Hymn: Dance with the Spirit (More Voices 156, vs. 2)
(Please stand as you are able)

Words and Music: Jim Strathdee

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Dance with the Spirit
early in the morning,
Move with the Spirit
throughout the long day,
Work and hope
for new life abornin'
Listen to the spirit
to show you the way.

Spiritual

Scripture Readings

Matthew 13:31-35 (The Kin-dom of heaven)
Galatians 5:22-26 (Fruits of the Spirit)

Reflection: 'A Theological Banquet'

*Hymn of the Day: In Christ There Is No East or West

Voices United 606

*To the tune of Voices United 344

(Please stand as you are able)

Words: John Oxenham 1908; alt.

Music: Alexander Robert Reinagle ca. 1830

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- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.
- 3 Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God
are surely kin to me.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christ-like souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Ecumenical

Hymn of the Day: Love Divine, All Love Excelling (VU 333)

(Please stand as you are able)

Words: Charles Wesley 1747

Music: Rowland Huw Prichard ca. 1831

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Evangelical

Invitation to Offering

We love, because God first loved us.
We give what we can, so that others may truly live.
Our tithes and offerings will now be received.

Choral Response: Bless Our Families

Voices United 556, vs. 4
(Please stand as you are able)

Words: Walter Farquharson 1974; Music: Ron Klusmeier 1974

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Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.

Evangelical

Offering Prayer

Loving God... we will sing with joy, and offer prayers...
we will bring our love and do our share. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Our God, who is all around us, your name is music to our ears.
Your Kingdom is one of justice, mercy and compassion
and we carry out your orders in our life as we understand them.
Today give us bread for our journey.
Please forgive us when we wrong others.
Help us to forgive those who wrong us.
May we resist temptation and not be caught up in evil ways.
Your Kingdom, your power and your glory
are mirrored in the best that we have to offer
and reflected in all that we can be.
May we be faithful to that Kingdom.
Amen.

Adapted by Ashley Walker ~ at age 16

Parting Hymn: Like a Healing Stream (More Voices 144)

Words and music: Bruce Harding, 2003

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1 Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is tricking through our lives
as in a dream unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth
like a healing stream.

2 Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil
to coax a new creation,
yearning for an end to want and need
like a gentle rain.

- 3 Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel
in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war
like a river strong.
- 4 Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts
to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea,
like a river strong,
like a gentle rain,
like a healing stream.

Spiritual

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Leadership – Rev. Hilde J. Seal

Music Leadership – James Yi

Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey

A Time to Wonder – Rev. Hilde J. Seal

Readers – Louise Johnston, Sharon Prindle-Collins,
Barbara Shobbrook, and Bill Walker

Spirit Kids Program – Joanne Thomas

Technical Support – Rob Glenn & Bob Krueckl

Fellowship Time – Men's Breakfast Group

Flowers are offered by Barbara Shobbrook in celebration of the life of
her husband, Robert Joslin.