

**August 15, 2021**  
**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**We Gather In God's Presence**

**Prelude:**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

**Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...**

**Call to Worship** (based on a paraphrase of Psalm 111 by Jim Taylor):

Our bright blue planet spins in the vastness of space;

**let all who live on earth rejoice.**

Only here do we know life exists;

**let all who live on earth give thanks.**

This fragile earth, bursting with life, is a work of art;

**let all who live on earth recognize God's extravagance and blessing.**

In awe and wonder;

**let us worship our God.**

**Hymn VU 686 "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

1 God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
now fulfil your church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;  
fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.

3 Cure your children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton selfish gladness,  
rich in goods and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

4 Set our feet on lofty places,  
gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christlike graces,  
pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
that we fail not them nor thee.

## Opening Prayer *(unison)*

Holy One, as we enter into the life of your Spirit:

Teach our hearts to be psalms, singing forth your praise;

Teach our minds to be proverbs, shining forth your wisdom;

And teach our lives to be parables, showing forth your glory in every gesture and deed.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## **We Are Blessed By God**

Time for the Young and the Young @ 

Anthem: "[Dear Lord and Father of Mankind](#)"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAxIN0egN-l>

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 111

I will thank you, God, with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in their assembly.

**Great are your works, O God,  
studied by all who delight in them.**

Honour and majesty are your work;  
your righteousness endures forever.

**You have won renown for your wonders;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

You give food to those who fear you;  
you keep your covenant always in mind.

**You have shown your power in action,  
giving your people the heritage of nations.**

The works of your hands are faithful and just;  
all your precepts trustworthy.

**They stand fast forever and ever;  
grounded in justice and truth.**

You sent redemption to your people;  
**you decreed your covenant forever.**

**Holy and awesome is your name.**

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom;  
**those who practise it have good understanding.**

**May your praise endure forever.**

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-15

<sup>10</sup> Then David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David. <sup>11</sup> The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup> So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

**3** <sup>3</sup> Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. <sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup> And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup> And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup> And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup> Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" <sup>10</sup> It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup> God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup> I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup> I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. <sup>14</sup> If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life." <sup>15</sup> Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being, and provided a feast for all his servants.

*For those of you who are interested, the other readings for this week are: **Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58**. You can look them up on [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) and search for the passage..... in any translation you prefer (ie. King James - KJV, NKJV, NRSV, etc.)*

### **Hymn VU 371 "Open My Eyes"**

- 1     Open my eyes, that I may see  
       glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
       place in my hands the wonderful key  
       that shall unclasp and set me free.  
           Silently now I wait for thee,  
           ready, my God, thy will to see.  
           Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
  
- 2     Open my ears, that I may hear  
       voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
       and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
       everything false will disappear.  
           Silently now I wait for thee,  
           ready, my God, thy will to see.  
           Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!
  
- 3     Open my mouth, and let me bear

gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare  
love with thy children thus to share.  
    Silently now I wait for thee,  
    ready, my God, thy will to see.  
    Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

**Meditation: “Dreamers”**

**Hymn VU 582 “There’s a Spirit in the Air”**

- 1     There's a spirit in the air,  
       telling Christians everywhere:  
       'Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
       living, working in our world.'
- 2     Lose your shyness, find your tongue,  
       tell the world what God has done:  
       God in Christ has come to stay.  
       Live tomorrow's life today!
- 3     When believers break the bread,  
       when a hungry child is fed,  
       praise the love that Christ revealed,  
       living, working in our world.
- 4     Still the Spirit gives us light,  
       seeing wrong and setting right:  
       God in Christ has come to stay.  
       Live tomorrow's life today!
- 5     When a stranger's not alone,  
       where the homeless find a home,  
       praise the love that Christ revealed,  
       living, working, in our world

**We Respond To God’s Grace**

**Invitation to Invest in God’s Mission**

God gives us every good gift: truth, righteousness, good news, faith, salvation, the Holy Spirit. We, in turn, offer our time, our skill, our finances to make sure that all people may know the blessings of God in their lives and come to worship God.

God of all peoples and places and times, we present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries that each of us may be a part of your answer to the cries of the world.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord’s Prayer**

Holy One, you are the giver of all good, you continually pour your benefits upon us. Age after age the living wait upon you and find that your faithfulness has no end, that your care is unfailing. We praise you that the mystery of life is a mystery of infinite goodness. We give you thanks for all the joy of life, and for the love of family and friends.

We pray for your church that it may fulfill your intention for it to be an instrument of your justice, healing, and peace in this world. This week we pray especially for Talbotville United Church and their minister, Pastor Don MacPherson.

We pray for our brothers and sisters around this world that we may all be reconciled one to another, and that we all may have that which we need to thrive. This week we pray especially for the people of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.

We pray for all who mourn a loss that they may come to know wholeness in your embrace.

Especially we pray for the friends and family of Catherine Bogart and Fern Smith.

We pray for all who are ill or dying, recovering from medical treatment or awaiting medical intervention that they may find healing and wholeness of spirit. Especially we pray for Barbara Clark, Hank Van Harten, Barbara Thompson, and for all who are known only in the silence of our own hearts.....

All of these prayers we gather together and offer them along with the words that Jesus taught, singing

**Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil**

**for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn VU 266** "Amazing Grace"

1     Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
      that saved a wretch like me!  
      I once was lost, but now am found,  
      was blind, but now I see.

2     'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
      and grace my fears relieved;  
      how precious did that grace appear  
      the hour I first believed.

3     Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
      I have already come;  
      'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
      and grace will lead me home.

4     The Lord has promised good to me,  
      this word my hope secures;  
      God will my shield and portion be  
      as long as life endures.

5     When we've been there ten thousand years,

bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

**Commissioning and Benediction**

May the blessing of God, the giver of every good and perfect gift;

**And of Christ, who summons us to service;**

And of the Holy Spirit, who inspires generosity and love,

**Be with us, now and always.**

May it be so.

**Amen.**

**Sung Response: VU 424** "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

**Postlude:**

**Announcements:**

**Dorchester:** Central Board meets Wednesday, August 18 at 7 pm.

Can you name six markers of the Christian life? If not, or if you want to learn more about them, join this fall's study group: **bullseye: Aiming to Follow Jesus**. If you, or someone you know, is interested in this 6 week study please let Rev. Mark know. Please also indicate your preference of day of week and time of day for the study, and whether you prefer a paper copy of the study guide or an e-book (the e-book is cheaper).

Rev. Mark will be participating in **That Dam Hill** run/walk for Indwell on Saturday, September 18. All donations are through Canada Helps and they will issue tax receipts for donations over \$20. For more information about Indwell, go to.... <https://indwell.ca>

For more information about the event, go to... <https://indwell.ca/events/that-dam-hill-charity-run-walk/?fbclid=IwAR2nAvHkUj-Q1Bxj7N9SwEHKfzH3t3ONNHfG-y6Vt1cVtYeNBKaQLf8OywE>

To sponsor Rev. Mark, please go to.... <https://www.canadahelps.org/me/n4CY7bjw>

**Scripture Lessons for next week:**

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69