

**September 12, 2021**  
**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 19**

**We Gather In God's Presence**

**Prelude:** "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" Dan Forrest

Tune:Germany by William Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

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

**Call to Worship**

Listen! Wisdom is calling...

**We are listening. Wisdom is calling.**

Wisdom is calling out in the street and in the market places.

**Calling loudly at the city gates...**

And wherever people come together. Listen! Wisdom is calling...

**We are listening. Come speak to us.**

**Hymn VU 395 "Come In, Come In and Sit Down"**

Refrain:      Come in, come in and sit down,  
                  you are a part of the family.  
                  We are lost and we are found,  
                  and we are a part of the family.

You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. **R**

There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

## Opening Prayer

Holy One, you the fount of wisdom. You spoke, and the heavens and the earth were created. You spoke, and mountains rose and seas formed. You spoke, and light and life came into being. And now we, your children, created in your image, gather together to worship you and give you praise. Hear us as we speak to you. Life is your intention, and death our legacy. We pollute and defile creation, we exterminate entire species of animals, we even kill one another: ethnic cleansing we call it. We justify everything we do, and, in your eyes, it is not wise. Give us hearts and minds to understand your wisdom, the wisdom of life. Give us the courage and the stamina to fight for life, for ourselves, for friend and foe alike, and for every creature that draws breath. Help us create environments that are life giving and systems that preserve life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## ***We Are Blessed By God***

**Anthem:** "[The White Dove](#)" John Rutter

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xo\\_BlxAngj4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xo_BlxAngj4)

**Time for the Young and the Young @** 

**Hymn VU 605** "Jesus, Teacher, Brave and Bold"

Jesus, teacher, brave and bold,  
let us serve you, young and old.  
Let us faith-filled workers be,  
all around, your wisdom see.  
Let us play and dance and sing,  
your goodness find in everything.

Jesus, friend, so strong and true,  
show us good, brave work to do.  
Show us those who need a friend,  
all things broken help us mend.  
Free our minds and stretch our care,  
teach us to serve you everywhere.

## **Responsive Reading: Psalm 19**

The heavens declare the glory of God;  
and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.

**One day speaks to another,  
and night shares its knowledge with night,**  
and this without speech or language;  
their voices are not heard.

**But their sound goes out to all the lands,  
their words to the ends of the earth.**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun  
which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy,  
like an athlete eager to run the race.

**Its rising is at one end of the sky,  
it runs its course to the other,  
and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat.**

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul;

**God's instruction is sure,  
giving wisdom to the simple;**

God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;

**God's commandment is pure  
giving light to the eyes;**

God's fear is clean, enduring forever;

**God's judgements are true,  
every one of them righteous;**

more desirable than gold, even much fine gold;

**sweeter also than honey,  
pure honey from the comb.**

By them is your servant warned;

**for in keeping them there is great reward.**

But who can discern unwitting sins?

**O cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,

lest they get the better of me.

**Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offence.**

**Let the words of my mouth  
and the thoughts of my heart**

**be acceptable in your sight, O God,  
my strength and my redeemer.**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 1:20-33

### **The Call of Wisdom**

<sup>20</sup> Wisdom cries out in the street;  
in the squares she raises her voice.

<sup>21</sup> At the busiest corner she cries out;  
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

<sup>22</sup> "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?"

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing  
and fools hate knowledge?

<sup>23</sup> Give heed to my reproof;

I will pour out my thoughts to you;

I will make my words known to you.

<sup>24</sup> Because I have called and you refused,  
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

<sup>25</sup> and because you have ignored all my counsel  
and would have none of my reproof,

<sup>26</sup> I also will laugh at your calamity;

I will mock when panic strikes you,

<sup>27</sup> when panic strikes you like a storm,  
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,  
when distress and anguish come upon you.

<sup>28</sup> Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;  
they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.  
<sup>29</sup> Because they hated knowledge  
and did not choose the fear of the LORD,  
<sup>30</sup> would have none of my counsel,  
and despised all my reproof,  
<sup>31</sup> therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way  
and be satiated with their own devices.  
<sup>32</sup> For waywardness kills the simple,  
and the complacency of fools destroys them;  
<sup>33</sup> but those who listen to me will be secure  
and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

*For those of you who are interested, the other readings for this week are: **James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.**  
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.)*

**Meditation:** “Knock, knock”

**Hymn VU 379** “O Holy Spirit, Root of Life”

O Holy Spirit, root of life,  
creator, cleanser of all things,  
anoint our wounds, awaken us  
with lustrous movement of your wings.

Eternal Vigour, saving one,  
you free us by your living word,  
becoming flesh to wear our pain,  
and all creation is restored.

O Holy Wisdom, soaring power,  
encompass us with wings unfurled,  
and carry us, encircling all,  
above, below, and through the world.

### **We Respond To God's Grace**

#### **Invitation to Invest in God's Mission**

Jesus said, “You will always have the poor with you.” Two thousand years later, it is still true, we have people in this world who are poor, and hungry, and without hope. And, what about us? Have we become apathetic towards the plight of our brothers and sisters in Creation? Our offerings to God are a sign of our commitment to God's vision of life on earth. Our offerings to God are a spiritual practice. Let's practice now.

Holy One, whether we offer our time, our labour, our skill, or our finances, we do so that lives may be transformed and that your vision, the Kingdom of God, might be realized here on earth, as it is in heaven. Bless all that we offer that it may be a blessing to those most in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer**

Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for all your mercies: for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your wisdom that has challenged us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love you and all your children, and to be thankful for all your gifts, by serving you and delighting to do your will.

We call to mind our concerns and commitments, and join our prayers for peace and well-being to the prayers of the whole church.

We pray for the church, by all its names and in all its places: for its continuing usefulness as a channel of grace and hope; for its rescue from bureaucracy and stagnation; for its witness to unity and justice; for its commitment to hospitality and compassion. This week we pray specifically for Grace United Church in Sarnia, and their minister, the Rev. Kenji Marui.

We pray for peace on earth: for the generous sharing of the earth's resources and the responsible sharing of the earth's problems; for understanding of others and willingness to regard the diversity of human culture as more stimulating than threatening; for the turning of swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks. We pray for all your family, our brothers and sisters with whom we share this earth. This week we pray for the people of Ghana and Nigeria, without forgetting about the people of Haiti or Afghanistan, or those affected by the recent storms sweeping our continent.

We pray for all who mourn the death of a loved one, especially we think of the friends and family of Henk Van Harten and Marilyn Topham.

We pray for those who are ill or dying, recovering from treatment or awaiting medical intervention, especially \_\_\_\_\_ and their loved ones and caregivers and those known only in the silence of our hearts.....

Finally, Lord, we commend to you our families and friends, and for your help in the days of this coming week. All this we pray in the name of the one who taught us to pray, saying,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Hymn MV 154 "Deep In Our Hearts"**

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;  
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;  
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,  
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.

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Go now with God:

**who covers us with tender mercies;**

Go now with Christ our Lord:

**who is our good companion;**

Go now with the Spirit:

**who gives us good food at the Table  
and living water to nourish us.**

Go knowing that God will direct your path:

**bringing us joy and delight**

**as we continue on our journey of faith.**

**Sung Response: VU 967 "Amen" (Danish)**

A-men. A-men. A-a-a-a-men.

**Postlude: "Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation"** Henry Purcell. Arr. Cindy Berry

## **Announcements:**

**Dorchester:** Central Board will meet on Wednesday, September 29 at 7:30 p.m.

**Union:** Unified Board will meet Wednesday, September 15 at 7 p.m. by Zoom (Rev. Mark has sent the link, so if you don't see it in your email or junk mail folder, please ask for it to be resent)

Sunday, September 12 is the start of the Season of Creation, which continues until Thanksgiving Sunday. You are invited to introduce the colour orange to your wardrobe starting next Sunday.

The fall study starts Tuesday, September 14 at 7 p.m. Rev. Mark has sent the zoom link, so if you can't find it in your email or junk mail folders, please ask for it to be resent. It's almost too late to join.

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.

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

For more information about the event, go to... <https://indwell.ca/events/that-dam-hill-charity-run-walk/?fbclid=IwAR2nAvHkUj-Q1Bxj7N9SwEHKfzH3t3ONNHFG-y6Vt1cVtYeNBKaQLf8OywE>

For more information about Indwell, go to.... <https://indwell.ca>

## **Scripture Lessons for next week:**

Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37