

May 15, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter

We Gather In God's Presence

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering In Song MV 8 "And On This Path"

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in the gates of holiness are open wide?
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

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

Call to Worship

Be still and know that God is.

Before creation began, God is.

And when all human striving ceases, God is.

**From everlasting to everlasting, God is God,
who alone is worthy to be praised.**

Let us sing our praises to the Lord our God!

Hymn VU 253 "Sing Your Joy"

Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory!
Rise and sing, the morning has come!
Bless our God and praise all creation;
song of the earth, and light from heaven:
God is alive! Hallelujah!

All the earth is filled with rejoicing,
light and life, the wonder of God!
Christ has triumphed! Risen for ever!
Joy of our hearts, and hope of our dreaming:
God is alive! Hallelujah!

May we learn to become your kingdom,
may we be your kindness and truth!
Love is our calling, gift of your presence;
children of God, and spirit of Jesus:
God is alive! Hallelujah!

Light our way, O God of the living,
may we learn to see with new eyes!
Jesus the Lord, our power and promise;
light for the blind, and food for the hungry:
God is alive! Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

Holy and Gracious God, you look upon us in our everyday lives and anticipate our needs. You offer a glass of cool, refreshing living water, so full that it is spilling over, yet in our search for other things to quench our thirst, we don't notice it. You offer the bread of life, and we grasp at it greedily, and then hoard it and look for additional things to satisfy our hunger. You call us into relationship, and, like a young child, we say, 'I can do it myself!' Forgive us God. Cup your hand beneath our chins to raise our gaze that we might see what you offer. Help us to know that that which you offer is not for our sake alone, but for the sake of Your church and the sake of Your eternal realm. Help us to realize that humans all over this earth are not individuals, but a single community; a community that owes its very existence and praise to You. Amen.

We Are Blessed By God

Responsive Lesson: Psalm 148

Praise God from the heavens; give praise in the heights!

Give praise, all you angels; praise God, all you hosts!

Praise God, sun and moon; give praise, stars and lights!

**Praise God, farthest heavens,
and all waters beyond heaven!**

Let all things praise the Holy One at whose command
they were created,

who established them for all time,

setting bounds, which cannot be passed.

**Praise God from the earth,
great sea creatures and ocean depths,
lightning and hail, snow and frost,
gales that obey God's decree,**

all mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars,
wild animals and cattle, creatures winged and earth-bound,

**sovereigns who rule earth and its people,
all who govern and judge this world,
young men and women alike,
old people and children together!**

Let all things praise the name of God,
the name above every other,
whose splendour covers heaven and earth.

**You give strength to your people,
songs of praise to your faithful,
to Israel, the people dear to your heart.**

Scripture: John 13:31-35

When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

"My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The other readings for this week are: **Acts 11:1-8; Revelation 21:1-6**. You can look them up on www.biblegateway.com and search for the passage.....in any translation you prefer (ie. King James - KJV, NKJV, NRSV, etc.)

Hymn VU 333 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
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.

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.

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.

Meditation:



We Respond to God's Blessing

Hymn VU 453 "Out of Deep, Unordered Water"
Out of deep, unordered water
God created land and life;
world of bird and beast, and later,
twosome people, husband, wife.
There is water in the river
bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
there is water in the font.

Water on the human forehead,
birthmark of the love of God,
is the sign of death and rising;
through the sea there runs a road.

There is water in the river
bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
there is water in the font.

Standing round the font reminds us
of the Hebrews' climb ashore.
Life is hallowed by the knowledge:
God has been this way before.

There is water in the river
bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
there is water in the font.

Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem: "I Have Called You By Your Name"

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

We don't give to the church, God. We give to You. We don't give because we get a tax receipt. We give to share the blessings you have bestowed upon us... we give to make real your rule in this world.... we give as a spiritual discipline...

There are many reasons we give to God, through the church. Our tithes and our offerings will be received, by Canada Post and CanadaHelps, on the offering plate or in the mailslot at the church or even by e-transfer.

Offertory Hymn MV 191 "What Can I Do?"

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Offering Prayer

Holy One, by your generosity we have received all that we have and all that we are. Help us to realize that there is no end to your blessings, that we may offer them, through your church, to be a blessing to others, and that we may become more and more your children in spirit and in truth. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

We thank you, compassionate God, that you hear the prayers of our hearts. We pray for:
All who call themselves Christian, the afflicted, the persecuted, the comfortable, and the apathetic, we pray especially for the people of Innerkip United Church, and their pastor Karen Willis;
All peoples of this world, especially the people of Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal;
All who rejoice at a baby's new birth or baptism, especially the baptism of Chloe Douglas;
All who are grateful when their work meets with success;
All who suffer because no work is to be found;

All who are bored, not having enough to do;
All who are tired, having too much to do;
All who are surrounded by the love of family and friends;
All who are lonely;
All who mourn when the circle is incomplete, when a friend or loved one has died;
All who are ill or dying, awaiting medical intervention or recovering from treatment, especially we pray for ...
Thank you for hearing us in every situation of life. Help us to support one another always: rejoicing with those who rejoice, and weeping with those who weep. We want to be joined together as members of the body of Christ, one large family, loving one another and serving the world. Like Jesus, we want to respond to each person who crosses our path with sensitivity and compassion. This we pray in the name of Jesus, our brother, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, and 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.

We Depart, A Blessed People

Hymn MV 163 "River Running in You and Me"

River running in you and me,
Spirit of life, deep mystery,
dancing down to the holy sea,
River run deep, River run free.

River laughed on my birthing day,
Wind and water joined in play,
soaked my soul in a shining spray,
River run deep, River run free.

River, cry my name to me,
lend me hope and memory,
sing me the story of the holy sea,
River run deep, River run free.

I stand on the edge, lookin' down,
too scared to swim, afraid I'll drown –
give me the courage to journey on,
River run deep, River run free.

Journey on far from my home,
River – break this heart of stone;
teach me to love, make me your own,
River run deep, River run free.

Hold me close on the day I die,
bear me up when my soul is tired,
carry me home on the rising tide,
River run deep, River run free.

River singin' in you and me,
Spirit of life – deep mystery –
catches us up in your melody
River run deep, River run free.

Commissioning and Benediction

Go into the world, showing it the power of the risen Christ by living a resurrected life;
In the name of God **who makes us,**
In the name of Christ **who makes us free,**
And in the name of the Holy Spirit **who makes us one.**

Sung Response: MV 209 “Go, Make a Difference” *refrain*

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.
Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

ALL:

Rev. Mark will be on continuing education next week, and will be available for urgent pastoral care. Rev. Keith Rameshwar will be leading worship next Sunday.

UNION:

May Outreach: Second Stage Housing..... wish list:

Garbage bags, bleach, Lysol spray or wipes, liquid hand soap, dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues, craft supplies, or monetary donations. Please leave items in the bin at the rear of the sanctuary.

We are collecting pop cans again. Leave the bags of cans at the back door of the church.

DORCHESTER:

Youssef and Ruba Rajeh have an interview scheduled for May 18 to determine their eligibility to come to Canada as permanent residents. Please keep them, and their interviewers, in prayer this week.

The **Holy Diner** will be starting up again this summer! All those interested in assisting in this community ministry please contact Brenda Olejnik 519-268-3385 or Carol Reid 519-268-3129.

Are you a history buff? Marion Woods is working on updating and enhancing the recorded history of Dorchester United Church. If you have stories or documents to share, or if you would like to help out, please contact Marion 519-461-1136.

Donations of food for the Dorchester Food Bank may be left in the box next to the back door.

Lectionary Readings for next week:

(May 22, Sixth of Easter)

Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

(May 29, Seventh of Easter)

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26