

August 14, 2022
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: "Hear My Cry, O God" César Franck, performed by Nancy Quinn

Lighting the Christ Candle

Moment of Silent Reflection

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

Call to Worship

God, you come like a refiner's fire,

come to burn away our sins and our indifference.

In Jesus you came to start a firestorm that would sweep the earth.

We come today asking that you rekindle the fires of our heart;

the fires of love and compassion, mercy and justice,

that we may leave this place and set the world on fire for Your righteousness.

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

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.

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.

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.
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.

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.
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.


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.
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.

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

Righteous God, you are the pillar of fire that burns before us, showing us the paths we ought to travel, yet so often we follow our own paths; paths that lead us away from you; paths that dull our spirits, and numb our hearts and minds and souls. Send your Holy Spirit to once again kindle our passion for life and love and justice. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We Are Blessed By God

Anthem: "God Is My Shepherd" Antonin Dvorak, performed by Nancy Quinn

Time for the Young and the Young @ 

Hymn "He's a Peach of a Saviour"

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
you who lead Joseph like a flock,
you who are enthroned amidst the cherubim.

Shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh;
stir up your might, come and save us.

You brought a vine out of Egypt,
you drove out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it;
it sank deep roots, and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches.

It stretched out its branches as far as the Sea,
and its shoots as far as the River.

Why then have you broken down its enclosure,
so that all who go by pluck its grapes?

**The boar from the forest roots it up,
and the beasts of the field devour it.**

Turn to us again, God of hosts, look down from heaven and see.

**Bestow your care on this vine,
on the stock which your right hand planted.**

As for those who set it on fire, who cut it down,
may they perish at the frown of your face.

**Let your hand rest on the one by your side,
on the one you have made strong for yourself.**

Then we will never forsake you;

give us life, and we will call on your name.

Scripture: Luke 12:49-56

Jesus the Cause of Division

"I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

*The other readings for this week are: **Isaiah 5:1-7, and Hebrews 11:29-12:2.***

Meditation: "Fire"

Hymn VU 578 "As a Fire Is Meant for Burning"

As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.

Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit,
we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime
is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness
mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

As God yearns for a world of justice and equity for all, so do we. We pray for justice. We work for equity. We offer our financial support for the kingdom of God to be established here on earth, as in heaven.

Offertory Hymn VU 537 "Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands"

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make;
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Prayer of Dedication

May all that we offer, O God, fan the flames of equity and justice around this world, and when it is a reality, may there be peace. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

God of fire and life,

your Spirit gives us life and arouses our passion for justice, tempered with mercy. At the foot of the cross we lay the concerns of the church, the world and all those in need.

Gracious God,

We pray for the one holy catholic and apostolic church. May it truly be your light to those who walk in darkness. May those who serve the church in its many and varied ministries, truly be fishers of peoples. We pray this week for Wyoming United Church.

Eternal God,

We pray for the leaders of the nations. May they govern with wisdom and compassion. May they seek peace and justice so all may dwell free of war and injustice. We pray for your people the world over, especially the people of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.

All-knowing God,

We pray for the wisdom to be faithful guardians of your creation. May we be open to ways to protect the air, soil and water from pollutants. May we seek ways to reorder our lives to preserve and nurture all life on this planet.

Compassionate God,

We pray for all who mourn a loss in their lives, especially the friends and family of Ron Dickie, Evelyn Knight, Bruce Smith, and Marlene Smith.

Merciful God,

We pray for those who are sick or dying. We remember especially Dale Dickie, Nick Jones, Paul McMillan, Marleen Parish, and their loves ones and caregivers and those known only in the silence of our own hearts...

May you heal them in mind, body and circumstance so they may feel your presence and know your love in their lives.

As we pray, so may we do, and in all that we do grant us the grace, the strength and the wisdom to seek your will, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn VU 421 "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"

Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come.

In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.

Our slavery left behind us,

new hopes within us grow.

We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.

We are not lost, though wandering,
for by your light we come,
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.

We pray our sons and daughters
may journey to that land
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.

Commissioning and Benediction

Jesus came to cast fire upon the earth.

Let us go and set a passion for justice ablaze.

Jesus came to bring division, not blind acceptance.

Let us go and fight against indifference and systemic injustices.

Jesus came that we might have abundant life.

Let us go and rediscover our passion for life.

And may the grace of Christ, the love of God,
and the unity of the Holy Spirit go with us all.

Amen.

Response: VU 961 "Let Us, O God, Depart In Peace"

Let us, O God, depart in peace,
who in your name are gathered here.
Disclose the brightness of your face,
and be forever near.

Postlude: "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High" by Rick Founds, arr. by Ken Medema

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL:

Rev. Mark will be walking again this year, on September 17, in **That Dam Hill 5K walk/run** to raise money for **Indwell**. Last year I was sponsored for over \$1,000. This year, if my sponsorship doubles that - \$2,000, I'll walk while wearing a clown wig.....and I'll post the photos (proof) for all to see.

This year the money raised will help support 3 Indwell projects in London:

- Opening this fall, Embassy Commons at 744 Dundas Street will offer 72 one- and two-bedroom apartments.
- Opening in 2024, Indwell will create 138 new apartment homes at the former Victoria Hospital grounds in the SoHo neighbourhood.
- Opened in 2019, Woodfield Gate offers 67 units of housing with onsite supports including nursing, food security, and addictions support to 70 individuals.

All donations are collected online (no cash please) simply go to....

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/fundraising/977d118b-a29a-428d-8549-87d5dfd12887>

DORCHESTER:

The **Holy Diner** is open for business on Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. throughout the month of August, in the church parking lot. Come one, come all, and bring a neighbour or a friend or even a stranger in need!

UNION:

Cruise Night returns! Monday, August 29, 2022, 4:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Beef on a Bun will be available 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Lectionary Readings for next week: (August 21, 11th after Pentecost)

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17