

Sunday Aug 23, 2026
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We Gather In God's Presence

Welcome

One: Boozhoo (pronounced *boo-zhoo*). Aanii (pronounced *Ah-nee*).
Shekoli (pronounced *Shay-go-lee*). Kwe Kwe (pronounced *Gway Gway*).
Welcome in the name of Christ.

**All: Welcome to this place of worship,
located on land represented by the London Township Treaty of 1796.
These are the traditional territories of the Anishnabewaki,
the Attawandaronk, the Mississauga, and others.**

One: Welcome to this space where God invites us to find sanctuary,
bring ourselves just as we are,
and learn to follow Jesus
as we care for God's creation and for one another.

**All: We gather today to share in song, Word and prayer,
and to celebrate the diversity of God's human family.**

One: In this space, regardless of age, ability, identity, orientation,
ethnicity, or background,
everyone is welcome.

All: We are all welcome here.

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation:

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Prelude: "Morning Has Broken"

Traditional Scottish Celtic. Arr. by Ryan Janzen.
Laura Bolt, flute and Ryan Janzen, clarinet.
Kathleen Hyde

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

All: We walk in the Light of Christ.

Gathering Hymn: "See the Morning Sun Ascending" VU 406

Words: Charles Parkin. Music: Joachim Neander.
Public Domain

- 1 See the morning sun ascending,
radiant in the eastern sky;
hear the angel voices blending
in their praise to God on high!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God on high!**
- 2 So may we, in lowly station,
join the choristers above;
singing with the whole creation,
praising you for your great love.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God above!**
- 3 For your loving-kindness ever
shed upon our earthly way;
or your mercy, ceasing never,
for your blessing day by day:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God alway!**
- 4 'Wisdom, honour, power, and blessing!'
with the angelic host we cry;
round your throne, your name confessing,
now we would to you draw nigh.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God on high!**

Call to Worship

One: This morning we are called to this place.

All: We are called to come together as the people of God.

One: We come to seek meaning for the everyday reality of our lives.

All: We come to seek out the One who gives meaning to life.

One: We come to share who we are and who we are becoming.

All: We come to be embraced by the One who creates us and loves us.

One: Let us praise and worship God.

All: Amen!

Gathering Prayer

Ministry of Music: "Siciliana" Laura Bolt, flute
from Sonata in B flat , J.S. Bach.

A New Creed VU 918

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Learning With All God's Children

Hymn "Like a Mighty River Flowing" VU 267

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Arrangement: Used by permission of Oxford University Press.
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- 1 Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond all human knowing
is the perfect peace of God.**
- 2 Like the hills serene and even,
like the coursing clouds of heaven,
like the heart that's been forgiven
is the perfect peace of God.**

- 3** Like the summer breezes playing,
like the tall trees softly swaying,
like the lips of silent praying
is the perfect peace of God.
- 4** Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.
- 5** Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture: Mathew 16:13-20

Response to the Word

One: The Living Word of God in scripture.

All: May the Word live among us and within us.

Sermon: Who?

Hymn "The Church's One Foundation" VU 332

Words: Samuel John Stone 1866.
Public Domain.

- 1** The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
- 2** Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.
- 3** 'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace for evermore,
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

- 4 Yet she on earth hath union with God the three in one,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

Offertory Hymn: "In Gratitude and Humble Trust" VU 544 (tune 625)

Words: Frank von Christerson 1960,

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**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself for us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of God's People & The Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass 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.**

Closing Hymn : "Fairest Lord Jesus " VU 341

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- 1 Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
 O thou of God to earth come down:
 thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
 thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
 robed in the blooming garb of spring;
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
 who makes the troubled heart to sing.**
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
 and fair the twinkling, starry host;
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
 than all the angels heaven can boast.**
- 4 All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,
 wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
 none can be nearer, fairer or dearer
 than thou, my Saviour, art to me.**

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Response: "Go Now in Peace" (sing x 3) VU 964

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**Go now in peace,
go now in peace,
May the love of God
surround you everywhere,
Everywhere you may go.**

Postlude: "To Everything There is a Season"

composed by Ryan Janzen
Laura Bolt, flute and Ryan Janzen, clarinet.