

Sunday October 18, 2026
Creation Time 6 in the Season of Pentecost
170th Anniversary Celebration

We Gather In God's Presence

Acknowledgement of the Land (not in unison)

This land is our Creators. For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on and cared for this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. As we come into worship, we recognize that Dorchester United Church is located on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, the Attawandaronk, and the Mississauga. The community of Dorchester is represented by the London Township Treaty of 1796.

As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation as together we care for God's creation and for one another.

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

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

**Prelude: "O For thousand Tongues To Sing /
Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praises."**

Arranged by Carol Tornquist.

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

All: We walk in the Light of Christ.

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

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Music: Marty Haugen © 1987 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
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**1 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.**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

Call to Worship

One: Come, let us worship God in the beauty of this place.

All: For 170 years our families, our friends, our communities have come to worship God in this place.

One: And as those who have done before us, we too will praise God with joy and thanksgiving.

All: We will come ready to be transformed by God's Word and inspired by the people of faith.

One: We will come trusting in God's love for us and seeking nourishment for the journey.

All: And then we will go out into the world to share God's good news and live the Gospel message.

One: Come, let us worship God in the beauty of this place.

Gathering Prayer

Anthem: "Come Build a Church"

Words and Music by Ken Medina

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 "Let Us Build A House" (vs. 1-3) MV 1

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**Let us build a house where one can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ will end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and a symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
A banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Response to the Word

One: The Living Word of God in scripture.

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

Sermon: "Where You Are..."

Hymn "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" (1, 2, 5) VU 512

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- 1 Lord, you give the great commission:
'Heal the sick and preach the word.'
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.**
- 2 Lord, you call us to your service:
'In my name baptize and teach.'
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us
closer in community;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.**

**5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
'I am with you to the end.'
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.**

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

Offertory Hymn: "There's Enough For All" TLUS 60

**There's enough for all
if we would learn to share it,
there's enough for all,
oh, help us to believe.
There's enough for all.
Let's bring our loaves and fishes,
and offer them to Jesus.

There's more than enough for you and me.**

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 "Let Us Build A House" (vs. 4-5)

MV 1

**Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen,
Serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
Taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tear and cries and laughter,
Prayers of faith and song of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Response: Go now in peace, never be afraid,

God will go with you each hour of everyday.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe,

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above,

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen, amen, amen.

*Words: Ken Besig and Nancy Price. Music: Ken Besig 1988.
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Postlude: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

Ralph Long, Tune: St. Thomas by Aaron Williams