



Mount Royal United Church

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey."

July 26, 2020

Prelude (This is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of Music and prepare our hearts for worship .)

Greeting: Good morning. I greet you in the name of Christ, who journeys with us; who is with us, in our online spaces and in our individual homes and lives.
This is the day that the Lord has made, we rejoice and are glad in it.

Lighting of the Christ Candle (Responsive)

We light this candle as a sign that Christ is among us.

**Known to us in the stories we share and in our story,
experienced by us in our community, present to us
through the Spirit in our midst.**

Declaration:

And as we open our worship this morning we embrace the national call to truth and reconciliation Let us pause to acknowledge that the lands upon which we live, work and worship, are by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki people – in this region, predominately the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with all its people.

Announcements

***Hymn: VU 371 "Open My Eyes"**

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Compassionate God, made know to us, in and through

Jesus the Christ, today we gather with grateful hearts; we gather in the sanctuary of our homes, with members of our family, or alone, but still part of the larger family of God, a faithful community. Thank you God for this time set apart to reflect on your word, and on your great love for us, a love which continuously searches us out. In this time of isolation and separation, enable us to be strong in the Spirit, to keep strong the ties that bind us together. In Jesus name, Amen.

Personal Prayer "Come and Fill Our Hearts" x2 **MV # 16**
(We conclude our prayers as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

We Listen To The Word

Learning Time Story and Lesson

Learning Time Prayer (Unison)

Loving God, we thank you for being with us today and every day. We thank you for the Good News stories, of the lost being found. Dear Jesus there are times when we feel lost too. Help us to know that we are not alone, that we are surrounded by friends and family to guide us, and that through them, the people around us, the people who love us, you are always with us. And help us to love others, to be there for others. Amen.

Hymn: VU 567 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Prayer for Understanding

Spirit of God, open our eyes, our hearts and minds as we listen for your still small voice. Grant us wisdom and understanding that we find within these words, the word we need for our journeying today. **Amen**

Nehemiah 8:1-3; 9-12

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Luke 15:1-10

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus the Christ.

All: Praise to you our Lord Jesus.

Reflection: "In Losing, We Find"

The Gift of Music: "Amazing Grace"

Offering Invitation

Offertory "With What Shall I Come Before The Lord?"

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

As we are able we lift our offerings up to you O God. Bless these gifts and use them to bring hope and joy into the lives of others, both here at home and far away. Bless us as well and make us kind and generous always. Amen.

***Hymn:** MV 176 "Three Things I Promise"

Prayers of The People (unison)

Creator God, we give you thanks for the beauty of creation and all that lies within. Grant us the knowledge and foresight to care for that of which you have made us stewards. We give you thanks for Jesus the Christ, who is love made manifest. We thank you that he came to live amongst us. We thank you that through Christ all may find our way to God. We pray that your Holy Spirit would be at work in our lives and in the world. Where there is suffering bring about relief; where there is persecution and despair bring justice and peace; where there is intolerance and bigotry bring about mindfulness and understanding; where there is loneliness bring about relationship with others and with you. May your Holy Spirit empower us to engage the world in such a way that it is transformed from the thing we have made it to the likeness that you created. Grant us your peace that we may delight in your will, and live in your ways.

One: Lord hear our prayers.

All: And in your love answer.

Blessing: May the Love of God, the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit rest upon you this day and abide with you all the days of your life.

Extinguishing The Christ Candle

The Service has ended. Although this candle is now extinguished the Light of Christ is Eternal, burning brightly in all who follow him. Amen and Amen .

Postlude