

VIRTUAL CHAPEL SERVICE

October 14 and 17, 2020



“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

~ Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)



Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“BE THOU MY VISION”

UMH 451

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

GREETING

PRESIDER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Presider Blessed are the poor in spirit, the downtrodden and despairing,

Many **They will rejoice in God's reign forever.**

Blessed are those who mourn, who are grieving

They will be comforted in God's reign forever.

Blessed are the ones who seek justice and righteousness

They will find it in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we when we love our neighbors and seek their needs

We will live in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we all when we seek to serve others in God's name.

**Let us worship together,
serving one another and serving our Mighty God. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“O FOR A WORLD”

NCH 575

**O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn, outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Now let us come before God with words of confession:

Loving and Gracious God, forgive us for we have gone astray from your ways.

Soften our hearts so we may come to you in contrition.

You taught us that:

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

But we put all pride in ourselves.

Blessed are those who mourn.

But we only mourn when others are happy.

Blessed are the meek and the peacemakers.

But rage and makes wars.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But we shirk from virtue and seek malice.

Blessed are the merciful.

But we call for vengeance and wrath.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

But cheapen our hearts with lust and dark thoughts.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

But we don't stand up for the persecuted nor the righteous.

Ever forgiving God, allow us grace to walk again in the light so we may be light to the world.

We ask this for our good and Your glory. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God forgives us and allows us to be renewed.

That is the good news and the free Grace we are given.

Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel

Many In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All Thanks be to God

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to pass the peace to each other by waving or by typing in the chat function in Zoom.

Peace be with you! **And also with you!**

Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

“BEATITUDES”

MALCOLM GUILTE

We bless you, who have spelt your blessings out,
And set this lovely lantern on a hill
Lightening darkness and dispelling doubt
By lifting for a little while the veil.
For longing is the veil of satisfaction
And grief the veil of future happiness
We glimpse beneath the veil of persecution
The coming kingdom’s overflowing bliss

Oh make us pure of heart and help us see
Amongst the shadows and amidst the mourning
The promised Comforter, alive and free,
The kingdom coming and the Son returning,
That even in this pre-dawn dark we might
At once reveal and revel in your light.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 5:1-16

NRSV

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on

my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

REV. DR. MELVIN BABER

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

One We lift our prayers to You,
 O Love Above All Loves,
 and place our hearts and souls within your keeping:

Many Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to walk in humility and compassion, Jesus
as companions in joy and sorrow with all the earth,
which you created in unity
for the sake of love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

You gave your life as a ransom for all, O Savior:
let us dedicate ourselves
to serving God and each other
in love and faithfulness
according to your commandment.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to seek the good of others, O Redeemer,
to serve rather than be served,
that we may embody your grace and mercy.

Lord hear our prayer.

By the path we take today, O God,
may we shine forth the love of God into darkness,
reconcile the world to your truth,
and proclaim your marvels as your witnesses.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of Hope, kindle your light within us,
and pour out your grace and peace
upon those for whom we pray.

Amen.

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

[THIS SPACE IS LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY]



1. Come, oh come, come to the ta - ble.
 2. Cir - cle round, let's join to - geth - er.
 3. God is love; Love is cre - at - ing



— Gath - er 'round, come with - out fear.
 — Share your joys, and bring your tears.
 — some - thing new, right here, right now.



— Known by name, here at the
 — Strength and hope found at the
 — We're chil - dren of God, here at the



ta - ble, this ta - ble; wel - come
 ta - ble, this ta - ble;
 ta - ble, this ta - ble;



here, to the ta - ble of love. love.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.

Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,

and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Day and night celebrate your glory
till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son,
you have revealed yourself to the world.

**By the guiding of a star,
you made him known to the nations
as the son of David and king of Israel;
that in following him,
we might be led from darkness
and into his marvelous light.**

As children of your redeeming purpose
who celebrate the manifestation of your Son
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Parent.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us.

**Our hope is built on the one
in whom you are well pleased.
Having been shown to the world
as your beloved Son,
he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom.**

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work
for which he came into the world,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”
After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
“Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.

**We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful God,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage**

**in the company of the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

CLOSING SONG

“YOU ARE SALT FOR THE EARTH, O PEOPLE”

NCH 181

**You are salt for the earth, O people:
Salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people:
Life in the Kingdom of God!
Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!**

**You are a light on the hill, O people:
Light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people:
Shine for the Kingdom of God!**

Bring forth the Kingdom...

**You are a seed of the Word, O people:
Bring forth the Kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
Grow in the Kingdom of God!**

Bring forth the Kingdom...

**We are a blest and a pilgrim people:
Bound for the Kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland:
Love is the Kingdom of God!**

Bring forth the Kingdom...

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“YOU ARE SALT FOR THE EARTH”

INSTRUMENTAL REPRISE

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Greeting: United Church of Canada, *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services* (Etobicoke, Ontario: United Church Publishing House, 2000), 19.

Call to Worship: written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell and posted on *Rev-o-lution*. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>

Opening Hymn: Lyrics copyrighted by Miriam Therese Winter, 1987. Reprinted under permission of CCLI.

Prayer of Illumination: Caldwell Presbyterian Church, "Prayers for Illumination (for Scripture Readers)," <http://www.caldwellpresby.org/docs/resources/Prayers%20for%20Illumination.pdf>

Poem: Malcolm Guite, *Parable and Paradox: Sonnets on the sayings of Jesus and other poems Paperback*, May 12, 2016, <https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/tag/sermon-on-the-mount/>.

Prayers of the Community: Leslie Scoopmire, <http://abidinginhope.blogspot.com/2018/06/prayer-1979-inspired-by-matthew-2017-28.html?m=1>, Accessed and modified on 6/24/2020.

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*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.

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THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.

To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.

To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.