



# HIGHLAND HILLS UNITED CHURCH

Minden, Ontario

**SUNDAY, MAY 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**All are Welcome!**

## **THE GATHERING**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FOCUSING MOMENT**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND: Unison**

We acknowledge that above all, this land belongs to God ... Wakan ... Creator. It has been cared for by many generations of people before us; both Indigenous Peoples and settlers. May we, in true humility, be thankful to be on this land today.

## **THE APPROACH**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Now, with voices joined as one, we offer our commitment as the church of Jesus Christ:

**ALL: that peace within us and joy about us be obvious to all, by the words we share, the actions we take and the compassion we show—each a hallmark of Jesus and every one worthy of emulating. For by them, we are as Christ to one another and the world.**

One: By God's grace and favour, may it be so. May it be so, indeed.

**ALL: Amen, amen. Again we say, amen!**

Written by Bill Perry, Consecon P.C., Carrying Place, Ont..  
Gathering, Lent-Easter 2024, p.42. Used with permission.

**HYMN: "Come to My Heart" VU #661**

1 Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
come to my heart today.  
Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

2 Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
fill me with love today.

Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

3 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
Answer my prayer today.

Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

**A NEW CREED: Spoken in Unison**

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.

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

**TIME FOR THE YOUTHFUL:**

**HYMN: "Let Us Build a House" MV #1**

1. Let us build a house where love 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 shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
2. 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 as 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.

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
    All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

## **THE WORD**

**Scripture:** John 15: 9 - 13

Leader: Hear and listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE**

**“The Web of Life”**

## **OUR RESPONSE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER: spoken VU #921***

**HYMN: “Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet” VU #245**

- 1 Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,  
    praise the Lord with the harp and lute,  
    praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute.  
Praise the Lord in the field and forest,  
    praise the Lord in the city square,  
    praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.  
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,  
    praise the Lord in the dark of night,  
    praise the Lord in the rain or  
        snow or in the morning light.  
Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,  
    praise the Lord on the highest hill,  
    praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

2 Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,  
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,  
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.  
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,  
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,  
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.  
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,  
praise the Lord in the time of joy,  
praise the Lord every moment,  
nothing let your praise destroy.  
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,  
praise the Lord in your work or play,  
praise the Lord everywhere in every way!

## **PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER: In Unison**

**Loving God, we express our thanksgiving for your blessing through these offerings. May they further our work in the Christian church, community, and beyond. Amen.**

Written by Taylor Croissant, Southminster U.C., Lethbridge, Alta.  
**Gathering**, Lent-Easter 2024, p.48. Used with permission.

### **SUNG BLESSING: VU# 602 vs 1**

**1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above. ©**

### **SENDING FORTH:**

One: Dwell in Christ's love with sweet song. Proclaim blessings in Christ's name. We dwell in Jesus' reign. We are God's creations. We will loosen chains, offer rest, and share God's bounty. Go then, in the power of the Holy Spirit and in God's love.

**ALL: Amen!**

Written by Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont.  
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## **A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**

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