



An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of

2018 June 24

Whole Family Worship/Celebration of Faith

Pentecost 5



Welcome and Inclusion

We open our hearts and our church family to all people in our community regardless of ethnicity, economic circumstances, sexual orientation, age, gender, or differing abilities. Many people's lives continue to be devastated by hatred, prejudice, and inequality, therefore we stand with those who are adversely affected by injustice, alienation and oppression.

Friends in Christ

Prelude: *Prélude (For a Sunday after Pentecost)*, Guy Ducharme

Tammy-Jo Mortensen organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Call to Worship:

Come, people of God, come and worship here!

We come with hearts full, and hopes high, and faith rejoicing!

Come, people in Christ, come and worship now!

We come with voices, music, hands, and feet!

Come, children of the Spirit's longing, come and worship God.

We come! Let us worship God together!¹

Processional Hymn: *Over My Head*

More Voices 88

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges & Kids' Church

God's Holy Word

Scripture:

Conall MacLellan

Ephesians 4: 1-16 • The Gifts of the Spirit

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father and Mother of all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is the witness of the Church.

Thanks be to God for the power of the Holy Spirit.

Anthem: *Exultate Deo*, Robin John King

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

¹ Written by Kate Crawford, **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2015, page 29. Used with permission.

(Text: Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.
Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.
Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.)

Reflection: *Knit together by our common thread.* Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *Common Thread* **Insert**

Pastoral Prayers Rev. Leigh Sinclair

Lord's Prayer **Voices United 916 (Paraphrase)**

Grateful Response

Offering: *Mountains and Hills*, Rachel Laurin

Offertory Hymn: *Let the Giving of Thanks* Iona Community

Let the giving of thanks be our sacrifice to God. (three times)

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Prayer of Gratitude

Gifts of Inspiration and Thanksgiving

Recessional Hymn: *Psalms 100 Make a Joyful Noise*

Voices United p. 820-821

Commissioning:

And now may we leave this time and place together:

grateful,

hopeful,

Anticipating the great thing that God would do in our lives and in the life of the world.

May we leave this time and place together:

eager,

excited,

And grateful for the opportunities given to us to share God's love in all the places life calls us to be.

We go.

Amen.²

Postlude: *It Takes a Village*, Joan Szymko Choir of Robertson-Wesley
Casper Seely, tenor; Shauna Konelsky, djembe; Lara Tang, cabasa

Music Notes

This is the last week for the choir before summer break. See upcoming Sundays or the eNews for special guest musicians throughout the summer.

The anthem this morning is from Robin King, who was a former Music Director here. He wrote this piece in 1987, revised it in 2003, and it is based on Psalm 81:1-

² Written by Bob Root, **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2015, p. 39. Used with permission.

3. It's full of sharp contrasts for each of the lines of the verses. It has become a Canadian staple, used in national competitions, performed by several Edmonton choirs including Chronos and U of A Madrigal Singers, and has been recorded by the Canadian Chamber Choir.

The postlude this morning is based on the African saying "It takes a whole village to raise a child". The phrase also inspired the genre of music, African in style, but newly composed by American composer Joan Szymko (b. 1957). Thanks to those who are adding some extras to this piece – Casper, Lara and Shauna. If you want to hear an encore, venture outside to the block party!

The organ music this morning is by Quebec composers to celebrate St. Jean Baptiste Day! Guy Ducharme was from Quebec City, and there is a serene theme, a little fugue and then a return to the theme at the last section, which the music notes say is "as reminiscent of the Seine as it is the St. Lawrence"!

The short Cantabile (in a singing style) offering comes from a suite of three movements in memory of Canadian composer Gerald Bales by Canadian composer Rachel Laurin. She is based in the Ottawa region and was born in St. Benoit, Quebec. This movement is called "mountains and hills" and perhaps was inspired by the passage from Isaiah "For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." The entire suite is called "Let the Earth Celebrate the Lord."

Cover Image

Cover image was taken by Rev. Karen Bridges on May 20, 2018. The picture below is from the Youth room and the altar they have created for the year.

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