

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
BRECHIN UNITED CHURCH
Guest Minister: The Rev. John Bullas
PENTECOST 9
August 16, 2020

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Prelude (title video)

“Come In and Sit Down” VU 395

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

I am here abroad.

I am here in need.

I am here in pain.

I am here in straits.

I am here alone.

(candle is lit)

All: O God, aid me.

Celtic, from “Prayers for Healing”

GATHERING PRAYER (based on Psalm 133):

One: *God calls us together here.*

All: God calls sisters and brothers all over the earth into one family.

One: *God welcomes everyone into God's own realm of peace.*

All: God's love motivates us to come together as a Global community.

One: *Love asks us to see beyond appearances.*

All: Love encourages us to be open to surprises.

One: *Let us worship together then in openness and unity.*

OPENING PRAYER

God of all blessings, you have blessed us with family that is ours through baptism and friendship; and through blood and adoption, and through our common humanity. You call us to make peace where there is anger between us. You have taught us to love where there is fear between us. How good it is when there is peace and love! Where there is still anger and fear inside us let our hearts be softened so that we can feel true peace in your house and in your world. Amen.

HYMN: “We are One” VU 402 vs. 1, 2, 4

READINGS

Genesis 45:1-15: Joseph and his brothers are reconciled

Psalm 33 Paraphrase

One: *How good it is, how wonderful, wherever people live as one!*

All: It is like sacred oil on the head flowing down Aaron’s beard, down to the collar of his robe. It is like the dew of Hermon running down the mountains of Zion.

One: *It is so good when the creation’s kindred live in peace and harmony.*

All: It is like the fragrance of a rose, rising unexpectedly to greet us.

One: *It is like sharing a leisurely cup of coffee with a good friend.*

All: It is like a sweet strawberry dipped in bittersweet chocolate.

One: *It is like rolling down a grassy hill and being able to stand up at the end.*

All: It is like the first bird call in the morning.

One: *It is like the full moon rising at the end of a good day*

**All: There God gives blessing: life for ever.
Amen**

Matthew 15: 21-28: Jesus Learns a Lesson

REFLECTION: *Knock Knock who's there?*

HYMN: "Tho' Ancient Walls" VU 691

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*an adaptation*):

All: O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere!

Release a space to plant your Presence here.

Imagine your possibilities now.

Embody your desire in every light and form.

Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom.

Untie the knots of failure binding us,

as we release the strands we hold of others' faults.

Help us not forget our Source,

yet free us from not being in the Present.

From you arises every Vision, Power and Song

from gathering to gathering.

May our future actions grow from here!

Amen.

(Written by Mark Berry, Emerging Church Movement)

HYMN: "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

COMMISSIONING: "Go With Me in a New Exodus"

(Ted Loder)

Let us pray:

All: O God of fire and freedom,

deliver me from my bondage

to what can be counted

and go with me in a new exodus

toward what counts,
but can only be measured
in bread shared
and swords become plowshares;
in bodies healed
and minds liberated;
in songs sung
and justice done;
in laughter in the night
and joy in the morning;
in love through all seasons
and great gladness of heart;
in all people coming together
and a kin-dom coming in glory;
in your name being praised
and my becoming an alleluia,
through Jesus the Christ. Amen

BENEDICTION: “I Wish You The Blessing”
(Oldham-Klusmeier)