

Worship Outline for September 6, 2020  
The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Brechin United Church

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Candle Lighting

*We bring to light all that is moving in creation,  
All that calls for our attention in its beauty or in its harshness.  
We bring to light the love and justice yet to be shared  
And we bring to light the presence of Christ, shining brightly here and everywhere.*

Gathering

*Jesus promised that where two or three gather in his name, he would be with them. We gather with one another and recognize the face of God in everyone around us. We recognize we are a part of something much larger than ourselves alone. May this be a time of great blessing, as we come to worship God.*

Hymn: VU 402 “We Are One”

Opening Prayer

*What is it, O God, to sing to you a new song? What is the song of these days? What is the praise written on our hearts, slowly finding its way to our minds and our voices? What love emerges from histories of hurt and violence, what peace is on its way? God may all of our wondering bring new depths to our worship and our sense of your presence in these days.*

Readings

Psalm 149 *Sing to God a new song*

Matthew 18:15-20 *Where two or three are gathered in my name*

Reflection *On Worship Old and New*

Hymn: MV 30 “It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker”

Offering

Offertory: MV 191 “What Can I Do?”

Prayer of Confession

*Creator God, you know our struggles and joys in ways beyond our imagining. You know our prayers before we find the words for them. And you hold us with love as we reflect and come to you in the ritual of confession....*

Passing of the Peace

*A brief guided meditation followed by approximately 15 seconds of silence.*

Hymn: MV 198 “When We Gather” vs. 1, 4, 5

## Communion

### Invitation

*From the beginning, followers of Christ have broken bread together. They've gathered at tables fancy and simple, sharing wafers or full meals. In this era of pandemic and separation we continue to gather together; sitting in our separate homes, with our own supplies, by the tools and privilege of technology and the movements of the Holy Spirit we are connected. This meal we share is hosted by the God who meets us where we are. And so all are welcome to join as we eat together, from whatever our distance.*

*If your bread and cup are covered, please uncover them now and place them in front of you.*

### The Great Thanksgiving

*May the peace of Christ be with you.*

*Feel the winds of God surrounding you, connecting you to all life and love.*

**With each breath, we offer to God a new prayer. With the breath of God in us, we share our fears, our hopes, our dreams, our thanks.**

*God you speak Creation in to being. We give thanks for all that you have made. For the waters from which life sprang forth, for the wind that fills our lungs, for the food that nourishes our bodies. For every fellow creature with whom we live in this world.*

**We sing songs and shout cries of praise and thanksgiving.**

*God you call us to live in you and you choose to share in our lives. And so we pour out our fears and worries. We raise to you our laments. We dare to share our dreams and visions. We trust you hear our prayers, and in love you hold them and answer them.*

*God you meet us where we are, be that in churches, or on the water, in the forest, or in our living rooms. You speak to us constantly through many voices. You remind us over and over again that even when we are distanced from each other, we are not alone.*

**We thank you for all those voices that have shared your love and promise over the centuries: the prophets and teachers and elders and wise ones reminding us who we are and who you are.**

**And as followers of Jesus of Nazareth, we join in the shouts of the ages: Blessed is the one who comes in the God of love! Hosanna in the Highest!**

### Remembering

*I invite you to hold the bread and then the cup, while reflecting on the words of the story.*

*Mary was the mother of Jesus, and she raised him in a quiet town. He modeled the kingdom, lived by its values, and in doing so enraged those with power. Knowing what was to come, he promised the disciples they would not be alone; an advocate, the Holy Spirit, would be there to sustain them. And he shared a meal with them on the night before his death, which we remember still today. We remember that he took some bread, blessed it, broke it, and passed it around saying, even when broken, this bread brings life. Eat it and remember me.*

*Then later he took a cup of wine, blessed it, and passed it to them saying:*

**Even when poured out, this cup is the new covenant. Drink it and remember me.**

### Consecration

*Holy Spirit, you blow through closed doors into wherever we are.*

**You meet us in our homes and fill us with hope, you light the fire of transformation in our hearts.**

*As we pause to eat and drink this morning,*

**Make us, while separated, unified in heart and hope.**

*In this bread and this cup may we meet our teacher once again.*

**In this meal of faith and transformation, may we feel the fire and wind of the Kingdom.**

*We pray in the name of the Risen Christ, who breathes hope and peace into our fear, and who encouraged us to pray together saying:*

**Our Father, Our Mother in heaven,**

**Hallowed be your name,**

**Your kingdom come,**

**Your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**As we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours**

**Now and forever. Amen.**

#### Breaking the Bread

*(Please break off a piece of bread for all in your home who wish to partake and we will receive them together.)*

*The bread we break is the Bread of Life*

*(Please hand a cup to each person who would like to receive).*

*The drink we pour is the Drink of Love*

*These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks Be to God.***

*Let's eat and drink together.*

#### Prayer After Communion

*We have broken the bread, we have poured the drink, we have shared a meal together. Even while we remain physically separated, we have been united and nourished as the people of God. May this meal we share with each other and with disciples across all time and distance feed us and strengthen us.*

*Amen.*

#### Benediction

*May the love of God, the peace of Christ and the movement of Spirit be known in all your movements in the days to come. Amen*

Response: VU 967 "Amen"

*Gathering Words written by Bob Root, Peterborough, Ont. Liturgy adapted from a service written by Gord Waldie, 2020.*