



HOLY TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

40 Hillside Dr. N. Elliot Lake, ON

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Minister:

Rev. Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert

B.A., M.T.S., M. Div.

Music:

Ann Foy and the
Central Avenue Bubble

Secretary:

Kathy Calverley

Office Hours: Tues and Fri

9 a.m.—12 p.m.

Pulpit Supply:
Roger West, LLWL Candidate

Order of Worship
Sunday, November 22, 2020
Reign of Christ Sunday

Welcome

We welcome you to our time of worship for Sunday, November 22nd, 2020. Whether this is your first time joining us for worship, or perhaps you are a returning visitor we are glad to have you join us. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together.

We invite you into this place and time of acceptance and light, to worship and know you are beloved and held in the divine embrace, just as you are.

*Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.
The asterisk (*) indicates congregation stands as they are able, but please feel free to sit at any time.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

For thousands of years First nations people have walked in this land. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the lands represented in the Robinson-Huron Treaty 61 of 1850, the Traditional Territory of the Serpent River and Mississagi people and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with its people.

Call to Worship

Written by Catherine Tovell, Kilworth U.C., London, ON
Gathering, Pentecost 2 2020, pg.52 Used with Permission

Come to this sacred place where neighbours and friends gather.

We come to worship God in community

Come to this sacred place where strangers are embraced.

We come to worship God in community

Come to this sacred place where those who are stigmatized, bullied, minimized, ignored, or simply forgotten are now called friends.

We come to worship God in community.

Prayer of Approach

Written by John Moses, Aylesford U.C., N.S.
Gathering, Pentecost 2 2020, pg.52 Used with Permission

Hymn: VU # 701*

What Does the Lord Require of You?

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness,

Walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice, and love kindness

And walk humbly with your God.



Prayer of Confession

Written by Shannon Duffus, St. John's U.C., Levack, ON.
Gathering, Pentecost 2 2020, pg.52 Used with Permission

**All: Gracious God, I hold on to so much.
All my sins pile on top of me like great boulders.
I do not put my trust in you.
I lose my faith; I struggle I keep moving.
As I falter, as I sink under the weight of my transgressions,
I cry out to you.
I need your mercy. Send me your love.
I put my trust in your grace.
You who do not keep track of my sins when I place them in
your hands.
Forgive me, Gracious God.
I wait. I want. I need. Full of hope.
Full of Longing.
Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Written by Shannon Duffus, St. John's U.C., Levack, ON.
Gathering, Pentecost 2 2020, pg.52 Used with Permission

Sharing Peace with One Another*

Prayer for Understanding



First Reading:

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 (NIV)

(Reader: Ian Lilley)

¹¹ “For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them.

¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness.

¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land.

¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD.

¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

²⁰ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.

²¹ Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away,

²² I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.

²⁴ I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

Psalm 100 – Make a Joyful Noise

VU pgs. 820-821

(to be sung by Ann Foy and Friends)

Refrain:

**Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!**

Know that your God has made you.
Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.
Worship your God with a song! **R**

Enter these gates, thanks giving.
Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.
Worship your God with a song! **R**

Ages through endless ages,
Seasons of endless years,
The love of our Maker ever shall endure.
Worship your God with a song! **R**



Gospel Reading:
Matthew 25: 31-45 (The Message)

The Judgment of the Nations

³¹⁻³³ “When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

³⁴⁻³⁶ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what’s coming to you in this kingdom. It’s been ready for you since the world’s foundation. And here’s why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.’

³⁷⁻⁴⁰ “Then those ‘sheep’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?’ Then the King will say, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.’

⁴¹⁻⁴³ “Then he will turn to the ‘goats,’ the ones on his left, and say, ‘Get out, worthless goats! You’re good for nothing but the fires of hell. And why? Because—

I was hungry and you gave me no meal,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
I was homeless and you gave me no bed,
I was shivering and you gave me no clothes,
Sick and in prison, and you never visited.’

⁴⁴ “Then those ‘goats’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn’t help?’

⁴⁵ “He will answer them, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.’

Sermon: *Who Will You Be?*

Moment of Musical Meditation

Largo by Handel, offered by Kathy Mitchell on clarinet

Prayers of the Faithful

(Presbyterian of Canada, Worship Planner 2020, Used with Permission)

Lord Jesus Christ, you proclaimed God’s kingdom among us and within us. In the power of the Spirit, your love is always at work, bringing good out of evil and life out of death.

We thank you that your love never lets us go,
for you have known the good times and the hard times of this life before us.

You came as one who was hungry and thirsty.

Where people live on the streets today, suffer from hunger, or beg for a meal:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as a stranger in need of welcome.

Where people live lonely lives or feel like strangers in a strange land; where love is lacking and people face rejection for the colour of their skin or the language they speak:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as one who was naked.

Where people lack enough clothing, shelter or life's basic resources; where people live without dignity, exposed to every kind of pain and hardship:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as one who was broken.

Where people feel pain in body, mind or spirit; where someone grieves the loss of a beloved or the future they planned; in places where the pandemic has done its worst and desperation has moved in:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as a Shepherd.

Where people are led astray or nations are ruled by corrupt or greedy leaders and there is no peace in the land:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as one who was in prison.

Where people are treated unfairly, targeted or tortured; where justice has failed and people are punished with cruelty:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

You came as one proclaiming the kingdom of God.

And so, we lift up these prayers in your name, Lord Jesus, knowing that your kingdom is drawing near and that we meet you in the face of those who cry out to us.

Hasten the day when God will wipe away our tears and death will be no more as we pray the words you taught us:

Lord's Prayer*

Hymn: VU # 600*
When I Needed a Neighbour

When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there?

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there.

Wherever you travel, I'll be there.

And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH THE SERVICE
OF OUR LIVES

Minute for Missions

Offertory Invitation



Offertory Prayer:

All: Generous and Gracious God, you envision a world where the hungry are fed and strangers are welcomed. We bring you our gifts to become part of your vision. Bless them and bless us, so that all our gifts bear fruit in Christ's name, and honour him as Lord of our lives. Amen.

Hymn: MV # 150*

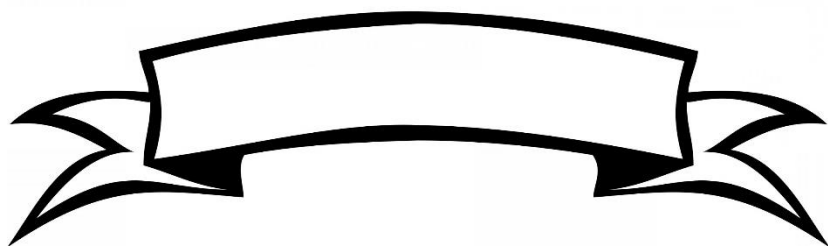
Spirit God be our Breath

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
We seek your guidance through friendship and care.
Loving God, be our prayer.

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Commissioning and Benediction*





Friday, Nov. 27th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Live Nativity Tableau

Church Grounds

Sunday, Nov. 29th, 10:30 am

Advent 1 - Focus on Hope

Sunday, Dec. 6th, 10:30 am

Advent 2 - Focus on Peace

Communion Service

Sunday, Dec. 13th, 10:30 am

Advent 3 - Focus on Joy, Scripture & Song

Sunday, Dec. 20th, 10:30 am

Advent 4 - Focus on Love

Thursday, Dec. 24th, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service - Focus on Light

Bringing Holiday Cheer to Larry's Place

M.O.S.S. (Mission, Outreach, Stewardship and Service) will once again be filling Christmas gift bags with personal items and treats for the gentleman at Larry's Place and we would like your help.

Donations of socks, scarfs, hats, toothbrushes and toothpaste, razors, books, candies, chocolates or little packages of homemade treats would be greatly appreciated.

Monetary donations will also be welcomed.

We kindly ask that you bring your items to the church by Sunday Dec. 13th or if a pickup is needed, please call Elaine West at 705-827-0294.

Please note in our desire to keep everyone safe, we will be following current Covid-19 regulations where the gifts bags once delivered to Maplegate, will sit in isolation for two weeks before being handed out at Christmas.