



KNOX UNITED CHURCH

October 15th, 2017

WORLD FOOD DAY

As we gather for worship today, we acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, the ancestral land of several Indigenous nations, and part of the homeland of the Metis. We respect the sacredness of our shared home and the ground on which we walk, and we are grateful for its stewardship through the centuries.

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SINGING THE SPIRIT (MV 182) (refrain)

Grateful

*Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of love.*

*Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your holy word,
joyful for your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.*

Tom Tomaszek, arr. Sarah Hart & Tom Tomaszek, 2003

CALL TO WORSHIP & GATHERING PRAYER

HYMN - *Worship the Lord* (VU 401)

LIGHTING THE TRINITY CANDLES

GREETING GOD'S FAMILY**ANNOUNCEMENTS****HOLY CONVERSATION**

Jesus likened God's kingdom to a banquet and invited his followers to eat and drink at the table in remembrance. But when he saw injustice, he turned over tables in the temple. We praise God, for the abundance of creation, and seek for tables of injustice throughout the world to be overturned.

In the ancient story of a people, god gave manna to the Israelites - and gives the manna of new life to us when we find ourselves in places of wilderness of body, mind or spirit.

We have failed to assure that our neighbours at home and abroad have access to the food they need. We struggle to trust in God's abundance. We have been silent when we should have spoken, and have been indifferent when we could have acted to end hunger. May the tables in our hearts be overturned.

We ask for the courage that we might do God's will, and live with faithfulness and integrity. Amen.

HYMN - God Reveal Your Presence (VU 391)**WORDS FROM OUR SCRIPTURES**

Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 32:1-14

Israelites make a golden calf idol

Psalm 23 (VU 749)

The Shepherd feeds me

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

Welcome at the banquet

ANTHEM *Peace Like a River*

David Eddleman, Words from Isaiah 66:12, Psalm 46:4

*I will extend peace like a river
and glory like a flowing stream,
Then shall you drink
and then shall you find comfort,
comfort in Jerusalem.
And when you see this, your heart shall rejoice,
and your being flourish like an herb.
There is a river the waters thereof
shall make glad the city of God;
the city of God, the holy place
of the tabernacle of the most high.*

"ROOM AT THE TABLE"

One: "Is there room at the table for ____ ?"

All: "Yes, welcome to the table, _____."

1. **Yvette** (ee-VET) 2. **Adel** (AY-dell)
3. **Grace** 4. **Adise** (ud-DEE-say)
5. **Dagim** (duh-GEEM) 6. **Tarij** (tuh-REEJ)

AFFIRMATION

I believe that bread comes from grain - that grows in the wind and the rain with the farmers' help, sometimes far from the eyes of urban folk.

I believe that bread comes from love - the love of God, the love of the farmer, the love of the baker's hands, the love of those who bring it to us.
I believe that bread can be and should be broken and shared, and given to all persons until all have enough and then some.
I believe that Jesus loved bread, and took it and broke it and blessed it, and fed his disciples and asked them to feed us.
I believe enough in bread to want it from Jesus to want it to nurture me to want his life through it to want to give life through it.
I believe that the bread of Jesus feeds me as part of his body - the church at work n the world.
I want to be bread for others. I believe the Spirit will help me, as well as all Jesus' people.

HYMN - Draw the Circle Wide (MV 145)

MISSION MESSAGE & OFFERING

COMMUNITY PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

MUSIC BEFORE PRAYER MV 96 (sing 2X)

*And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.*

words: Lynn Bauman ©2000. music: Linnea Good ©2006

God is our host as well as our shepherd. God invites us to the banquet, the banquet of life.

All parts of the world are invited when Jesus' ways are followed - enemies and friends, the alienated and powerful, those close at hand and those far off. All are offered the wealth and lavishness of bread broken and shared, and the cup of refreshment that leads to new life. Seeking and offering food for the body, food for the soul, food for life, we overflow with thanks for God's Spirit of Abundance.
Goodness and love unfailing, these will follow us all the days of our lives, and we shall dwell in the home of our God for all eternity. Amen.

HYMN - I Can Feel You Near Me God (MV 48)

SUNG BLESSING (MV 211) (sing 2X)

*Go now in peace,
guided by the light of Christ,
so you may be
nourished by the Word of Life.*

words and music: Pedro Rubalcava, arr. Peter Kolar, 2002

POSTLUDE