

Persevering Toward Wholeness



7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2026

10:00 am

*please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.

Liturgist for today's worship is Sue Bentley.

Thanks to Liz Warriner for special music today.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

CALL TO WORSHIP*

We come to remember.

We come to learn.

We come to offer praise.

We come to live in God's truth, to hold fast to God's laws, and rejoice in God's word.

HYMN*

"Leaves of the Tree"

by Deborah Block for the 227th General Assembly

(tune: O Quanta Qualia)

**Leaves of the tree for the healing of nations—
Off'rings of peace making God's invitation.
Balm for our wounds and the palms of rejoicing;
Branches extended, their welcome are voicing.**

**Leaves of the tree for the healing of nations—
Budding and flow'ring in love's transformation,
Whisp'ring God's presence and shouting God's glory,
Witness through time to the truth of our story.**

**Leaves of the tree for the healing of nations—
God's tree of life yielding our new creation,
Tree of the garden and lifegiving river,
Rooted and grounded in love by the Giver.**

**We are the leaves for the healing of nations—
We are the trees clapping our jubilation;
We are the branches, in Christ ever growing;
We are God's people with praise overflowing.**

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

**Holy One, have mercy on us. You created us in
your own image, but we hurt and dishonor one
another. You planted us in a garden of good
things but we exploit and abuse the earth. You
gave us your word to guide us, but we fall short of
your will. Forgive us, God of grace. Clothe us in
your righteousness, fill us with the fruit of your
Spirit, and send us forth in your service, that we
may be a source of healing in this world you love
so much.**

[silence]

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

RESPONSE TO PARDON

582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

GOSPEL– Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Sue Bentley

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Liz Warriner

“How Can I Keep from Singing?”

NEW TESTAMENT – Revelation 22:1-5

SERMON

Dr. Linda Dickerson

“For the Healing of the Nations”

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE

From "A New Creed" of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

.....

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

.....

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

.... Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving Jesus, you have come to us in this sacrament and made us one with you and each other and we thank you. May we continue to become more and more like you. Let us never take you for granted, but always pray for one another. May we strive to be leaves that offer healing to all the nations. Amen.

HYMN* *"Shall We Gather at the River"* 375

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

295, v. 3

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN – All are welcome!

