

Trinity-Grace United Church  
**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
June 9th, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME

**INTROIT:** "Take, O Take me As I Am" (MV 85)

*Soloist:*

Take, O take me as I am;  
Summon out what I shall be;  
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

**All:**

**Take, O take me as I am;  
Summon out what I shall be;  
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

OPENING RESPONSES & CANDLE LIGHTING

*One/All:*

Once, God said, "Let there be light.  
**And the light was with us.**

Once, God sent Jesus.  
**And the light was with us.**

Today we light this candle  
**Because the light is still with us.**

*The Christ candle is lit*

May the holy one,  
the sacred light that contains all the light,  
hold us as we gather.

**HYMN:** "It's A Song of Praise to the Maker" (MV 30)

1. It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
the thrush sings high in the tree.  
It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
The gray whale sings in the sea,

*Refrain*

And by the Spirit  
you and I can join our voice to the holy cry  
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

2. It's a call of life to the Giver  
when waves and waterfalls roar.  
It's a call of life to the Giver  
when high tides break on the shore. *Refrain*

3. It's a hymn of love to the Lover;  
the bumblebees hum along.  
It's a hymn of love to the Lover,  
the summer breeze joins the song. *Refrain*

4. It's the chorus of all creation;  
it's sung by all living things.  
It's the chorus of all creation;  
a song the universe sings. *Refrain*

**PRAYER FOR RELEASE AND RENEWAL**

*One/All:*

Divine Mystery,

In this season of Pentecost, we praise you for your breath  
which fills the universe and makes it alive.;

**We praise you, Divine Life, for the gift of Spirit.**

Your love blows through all creation and makes it one;

**We praise you, Divine Lover, for the gift of Spirit.**

Your presence fills every corner, your voice fills every silence,  
and your heartbeat lives within every living thing;

**We praise you, Divine Presence, for the gift of Spirit.**

But, knowingly or unknowingly,  
we have failed to value the life of other people,  
other creatures, and the world You have given to be our home.

**Forgive us, Divine Life.**

We have failed to recognize the connectedness of all things,  
and have brought pain through division and exclusion.

**Forgive us, Divine Lover.**

We have denied your presence, deafened our ears to your voice,  
And forgotten your love for us and all that you have made.

**Forgive us, Divine Presence.**

*Silent prayer*

Holy, eternal one, forgive us, breathe new life into us;  
re-ignite the flames of compassion, peace-making  
and justice-seeking within us.

We pray this in the name of Christ,  
your eternal word of truth and love,  
reconciliation and resurrection.

**Amen.**

## A WORD OF GRACE

*Leader:*

Scripture reminds us that God asks just three things of us: to do justice, to love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. To all who seek reconciliation with God and neighbour in kindness and humility, God offers forgiveness and peace.

## SHARING PEACE

*One:* May the peace of Christ be with you all.

***All:* And also with you!**

*We take a moment to greet each other in the peace of Christ.*

## ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

*One:*

God of all the ages,  
send your Spirit to open our minds and hearts  
to your Word for us today,  
in the name of Christ, your Living Word.

***All:* Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 1 Corinthians 4: 1, 6-10, 15

### **Treasure in Clay Jars**

**4** Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.

**6** For it is the God who said, “Light will shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

**7** But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

**8** We are afflicted in every way but not crushed, perplexed but not driven to despair, **9** persecuted but not forsaken, struck down but not destroyed, **10** always carrying around in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

**15** Indeed, everything is for your sake, so that grace, when it has extended to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

*One:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**All:** **Open our hearts, Spirit of Life.**

## EXPLORING THE WORD

- Message by the Rev. Sandra Nixon

## RESPONDING

**HYMN:** “Sing A New World Into Being”      Words: Mary Louise Bringle (2006)  
Tune: VU 374

*During the hymn, the offering box is brought forward*

1. Sing a new world into being,  
Sound a bold and hopeful theme;  
Find a tune for silent yearnings,  
Lend your voice and dare to dream.  
Dream a church where all who worship  
find their lives and loves belong:  
Sing a new world into being,  
Sing as Christ inspires your song!

2. Sing a new world into being  
where each gender, class and race  
brings its rainbow gifts and colours  
to God's limitless embrace;  
where the lines that once divided  
form instead the ties that bind:  
Sing a new world into being,  
risk transforming heart and mind!
  
3. Sing a new world into being  
where the homeless find a home;  
where no children ever hunger  
but are filled with God's shalom;  
where all people work for justice,  
where all hate and vengeance cease:  
Sing a new world into being,  
raise the harmonies of peace!
  
4. Sing a new world into being,  
join the ancient prophets' cry;  
for a time of health and plenty  
when all tears have been wiped dry:  
when compassion flows like waters,  
during balm for all who grieve:  
Sing a new world into being,  
live the promise you believe!

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Trinity-Grace is grateful for the many ways we are gifted and called to contribute to God's mission through this faith community.*

## Prayer of Dedication

*Leader:*

God of growing gardens and growing hope,  
receive our gifts and our gratitude this day.

**All:**

**Bless what we bring and what we do,  
that this community may be an expression of your love  
and a vessel for the work of your spirit  
in Christ's name. Amen.**

## **CONNECTING IN COMMUNITY**

*We share announcements, insights, joys & concerns.*

## **PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND CONCERN (The Prayers of the People)**

*Periods of silence will be left for you to offer your own prayers*

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DISCIPLES (The Lord's Prayer)**

**All:**

**Divine One, Loving Parent of all,  
Holy and blessed is your name.**

**We pray for your reign of peace to come;  
We pray that your good will be done -  
Let heaven and earth be one.  
Give us this day the bread we need,  
Give it to those who have none.**

**Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,  
from each one to each one.  
Lead us to holy innocence  
beyond the evil of our days.**

**For yours is the glorious reign  
of the power of love.  
Forever your name is All in One.  
Amen.**

**HYMN:** "All Who Hunger" (VU 460 - verses 1 & 2)

- 1 All who hunger, gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering.  
Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.
  
- 2 All who hunger, never strangers;  
seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming.  
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered  
in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

**SHARING THE FEAST OF LIFE**  
**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*One/All:*

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Holy One.**

Let us give thanks to the God of love.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



*Leader:*

Right and good it is, O God,  
to give you thanks and praise for the many ways  
we experience your delight, beauty, and mystery  
in our lives and in the world.

We thank you that from the beginning of creation,  
as your spirit moved over the face of the deep,  
you have been with us -  
in dazzling stars and crashing waves;  
in waving trees and the changing seasons;  
in skipping children and wise, wondering sages.

We thank you not only for the beauty of this very moment  
but for the way you, as beauty,  
pervade all our moments of communion:  
the look in another's eyes; the sound of a simple song;  
the touch of a warm embrace;  
the taste of freshly baked bread.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you;  
all that is lovely, all who are loving  
point to you as their fulfillment.

And we thank you for mystery,  
for the gifts of living on this ever-moving edge  
between the fading past and emerging future.

As eternal presence,  
you enfold us in the stories of our traditions  
and the promises of the future,  
enabling us to rest in the sure and certain knowledge  
that we are yours, now and forever.

As Spirit of Life, you move amongst your people,  
breathing into us compassion, love, creativity,  
and a vision of your realm of justice, wholeness and peace.

And so, with all those who have come before us,  
we join with your whole church, past and present  
to praise you, singing together:

**SING:** "Holy, holy holy" (MV 203)

**All:**

**O holy, holy holy God,  
O God of time and space.  
All earth and sea and sky above  
bear witness to your grace.**

**Hosanna in the highest heav'n,  
creation sings your praise.  
And blessed is the One who comes  
and bears your name always!**

*Leader:*

Gracious God,  
we remember and give thanks also  
that into your creation came Jesus,  
In whom your intention to carry all Creation  
into wholeness was manifested.

We remember his life and teachings,  
his compassion, his self-giving love, even to death,  
and his rising to life breathing forgiveness,  
revealing the hope of our redemption.

When Christ came into the world, a path was lit for humanity -  
a way of sacred wisdom, forgiveness, and compassion;

a path that makes room for all, with love at the centre.

And now, Holy One, as we gather at your table,  
we remember how,  
on the night before he died,  
Jesus gathered with his friends for a final meal.

He broke bread and helped them to understand  
how he was giving himself as nourishment  
for a spiritually hungry world:

“This is my body, broken for you.  
Whenever you eat together, remember me.”

And when the meal had finished,  
he helped them understand  
how he had poured himself out completely  
to help humanity perceive the emergence of God’s kingdom:

“This is my life poured out for you.  
Whenever you share the cup,  
do this in remembrance of me.”

**(ALL):**  
**Gracious God,**  
**may your ever-present Spirit**  
**bless these gifts and this gathering.**  
**May these elements of the earth**  
**become sacred in the sharing of this meal,**  
**sacraments of your unfolding story of love,**  
**for the flourishing of your beloved world.**  
**Amen.**

## Sentences

*One:* He whom death could not contain, is present to us in this bread.

He who redeems us and calls us by name now meets us in this cup.  
These are the gifts of God for the family of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### Distribution of the elements

Communion is distributed - all are welcome to participate.

#### **In person:**

*\*Please come forward for communion. You will be given a piece of bread (gluten free) by the first server. Please consume the bread and then move to the second server where you can take and drink a glass of grape juice.*

*\*If you are unable to come to the front, please remain seated and you will be served at your seat.*

*\*If you do not wish to receive communion for any reason, you are welcome to come up to the front and receive a blessing from Rev. Sandra. Simply place your hands over your chest to indicate you would like to receive a blessing.*

#### **Online:**

*Please have a piece of bread and a cup of grape juice (or your preferred substitutes) ready and consume them as you receive them.*

**COMMUNION HYMN: "You Satisfy The Hungry Heart"** (VU 478)  
Verses 2, 4, 5

#### **Refrain:**

You satisfy the hungry heart  
with gift of finest wheat.  
Come, give to us, O saving Lord,  
the bread of life to eat.

2 With joyful lips we sing to you  
our praise and gratitude,  
that you should count us worthy friends,  
to share this heavenly food. *Refrain*

- 4 The mystery of your presence here  
no mortal tongue can tell;  
whom all the world cannot contain  
comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain*
- 5 In gracious love you give yourself;  
then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name  
in truth and charity. *Refrain*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

**(ALL):**

**God of the way,  
you are the road we travel and the sign we follow;  
You are bread for the journey, and the wine of arrival.**

**May your Spirit lead us as we follow the way of Christ;  
holding on to each other,  
together seeking your kin-dom of wholeness and peace.**

**In the name of Jesus our Companion and Guide,  
we pray. Amen.**

**HYMN: "Travel On, Travel On" (VU 647)**

- 1 Travel on, travel on, there's a spirit that is flowing,  
a spirit that is flowing night and day.  
Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is flowing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.  
Travel on, travel on, with the river that is flowing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.
- 2 Travel on, travel on, there's a spirit that is growing,  
the spirit grows like flowers night and day.

Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is growing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.  
Travel on, travel on, with the flower that is growing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.

- 3 Travel on, travel on, there's a spirit that is playing,  
the spirit plays like music every day.  
Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is playing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.  
Travel on, travel on, with the music that is playing,  
the spirit will be with us all the way.

- 4 In the kingdom of heaven is our end and our beginning,  
the road that we must travel every day.  
Travel on, travel on, to the kingdom that is coming,  
the kingdom will be with us all the way.  
Travel on, travel on, to the kingdom that is coming,  
the kingdom will be with us all the way.

## SENDING & BLESSING

*The Christ candle is extinguished*

**SUNG RESPONSE:** "Amen"

VU 974

**All:**

**Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen!**  
**Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen!**

## POSTLUDE

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