

**Celebration of the 99th Anniversary of Church Union
Zwick's Park
June 9th, 2024**

Greeting

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Acknowledgement of the Land (In unison)

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In Belleville and its environs, we acknowledge these lands as the traditional home of the Huron-Wendat, the Anishinaabeg, and the Haudenosaunee people. We acknowledge also that we are directly adjacent to the Kanien'keha:ka community of Tyendinaga. We give thanks for the stories of these and other First Peoples, their wisdom, and their ongoing care for this land. We commit ourselves to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on the land with respect and gratitude for its creation and Creator.

Call to Worship *(From A Song of Faith)*

We offer worship

as an outpouring of gratitude and awe

and a practice of opening ourselves to God's still, small voice of comfort,

to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,

in community and in solitude

God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.

We sing with trust.

Prayer of Approach (In unison)

Creating and Creator God, we gather from different communities of faith to worship you this day. Hear now the prayers we offer and the songs we sing, and open us to your word. We ask these things that in this time of worship we might be strengthened for the challenges of living as your people in this time. These things we pray, in Christ's name, Amen.

† Hymn # 1 MV “Let Us Build a House”

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
 and all can safely live,
 a place where saints and children tell
 how hearts learn to forgive.
 Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
 rock of faith and vault of grace;
 here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
 All are welcome,
 all are welcome,
 all are welcome in this place.

- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
 and words are strong and true,
 where all God's children dare to seek
 to dream God's reign anew.
 Here the cross shall stand as witness
 and as symbol of God's grace;
 here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**

- 3 Let us build a house where love is found
 in water, wine and wheat;
 a banquet hall on holy ground,
 where peace and justice meet.
 Here the love of God, through Jesus,
 is revealed in time and space;
 as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: **R**

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
**All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

United Church Creed (In unison)

**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.

Children's Time
Eastminster Puppet Play

† Hymn # 28 MV “God of the Bible”

- 1 God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
 Hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
 You are our centre, daylight or darkness,
 Freedom or prison, you are our home.
 Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
 God always faithful, you do not change.
 Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
 God always faithful, you do not change.
- 2 God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
 suffering with us, taking our part,
 still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
 feeding, sustaining, from your own heart. **R**
- 3 Those without status, those who are nothing,
 you have made royal, gifted with rights,
 chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
 birthing new systems, lighting new lights. **R**
- 4 Not by your finger, not by your anger
 will our world order change in a day,

but by your people, fearless and faithful
small paper lanterns, lighting the way. **R**

- 5 Hope we must carry, shining and certain
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
bonding us gladly one to the other,
till our world changes facing the Cross.
**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change**

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 133

**Choir Anthem
African Psalm
(by Partrick Liebergen)**

Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 1: 4 – 10

**Sermon
Rev. Dr. Malcolm Sinclair**

† Hymn # 658 VU “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

- 1 O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.
- 2 O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;

my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

3 O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Presentation of a Symbol of Each Community of Faith

† Hymn # 958 VU “Halle, Halle, Halle”

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Repeat)

Presentation of the Offering

† Hymn # 541 VU “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Offertory Prayer

- 1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
**And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.**
- 2 Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me: **R**
- 3 As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know: **R**
- 4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you: **R**
- 5 You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you:
**And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.**

Commissioning and Benediction

