

CUMMER AVENUE UNITED CHURCH



Kindness • Justice • Hope

*We are an inclusive Christian community celebrating God's presence
as we work to enrich lives and transform our world.*

Ministers:	The Congregation
Lead Minister:	Rev. Cheryl-Lynn MacPherson
Congregational Care	
Minister:	Karen Shea
Director of Music Ministries:	Taylor Sullivan
Program Director, Drop-Inn:	Dolores Doucette
Church Administrator:	Heather Miller

Sunday, June 28, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Fourth after Pentecost – Pride Sunday

bold face type: congregational response
VU: Voices United, MV: More Voices,

*As we gather today, we acknowledge the history, spirituality, culture,
and stewardship of the land of the Indigenous people of this region,
most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation who are
Anishinaabe Ojibwe people. We seek to live in respect, peace, and right
relations with them as we live, work, and worship upon their
traditional territory. We are also mindful of broken covenants and the
need to strive to make right with all our relations.*

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Musical Meditation:

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers (from VU#385) - Crüger

Music: O God of All the Many Lands (from VU#523, adapted)

Call to Worship:

Gathered together, we proclaim the good news of God
publicly, intentionally, and explicitly:

**This community joyfully affirms God's love for LGBTQIA
and Two-Spirit people.**

The presence of God welcomes the fullness of who we are.

**We are people who desire. Who long. Who practice love in
many ways.**

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We celebrate love that is platonic and love that is erotic.

Love that is queer and love that is collective.

We are people who want to know and be known—
for who we've been, who we are, and who we are becoming.

We honour identities in transition.

We delight in authentic self-expression.

**Whether trans or intersex or cis, God moves in our
becoming.**

How wonderful are the many works of God's creative hand!

May all who long for Love's embrace feel their holy worth.

Opening Prayer:

Beloved One, your embrace is a refuge from violence and
hatred. Those who have been turned away, forgotten, or
persecuted find belonging in you. We hope to embody such
love in this place. May we be a sanctuary, a shelter, a safe
place to turn. May we endeavor to learn from each other and
grow together in love that protects and uplifts. Amen.

Music: God of All the World (MV#22)

Bible Readings:

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

Paul proclaims that unity and diversity exist in the Body of Christ.

Mark 9:38-41

*Jesus offers a correction to the disciples who were concerned with
whether someone was like them.*

Reflection:

- Rev. Cheryl-Lynn MacPherson

Affirmation:

One: **We affirm** our acceptance of all human beings as
persons made in the image of God regardless of their
sexual orientation or gender identity.

Two: **We affirm** salvation for all people is by grace through
faith and that all believers in Christ are accepted as full
members of the Christian church regardless of sexual
orientation or gender identity.

One: **We affirm** that the church is called to initiate and encourage communication and discussion with brothers and sisters in the LGBTQ2S community about sexuality in order that fellowship may be increased and misunderstanding, fears and hostilities lessened.

Two: **We affirm** that members of the church, individually and corporately, are responsible for becoming more aware of discrimination against the LGBTQ2S community, taking action to ensure that they enjoy their full civil and human right in society, working to end all form of discrimination against them, and for personally supporting the victims of such discrimination.

One: **We affirm** the need, as the church engages members of the LGBTQ2S community in dialogue, to recognize the personal and professional risks to which people open themselves as they respond to this invitation.

Two: **We affirm** the need for all church members, of all orientations and gender identities, to study and understand sexuality and lifestyles in the light of the gospel.

One: **We affirm** the call to apology that issues through dialogue, story-telling, education, and reconciliation with people who identify as sexual or gender diverse, including but not limited to lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transsexual, transgender, two-spirited, and queer persons.

(From Gift, Dilemma, and Promise: A Report and Affirmations on Human Sexuality, United Church of Canada, 1984. Adapted to include gender diversity and with addition of statement from the Living Apology GC42 2015.)

Music: We Are Pilgrims (VU#595, vv. 1,3,4&5)

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of Justice, even as we celebrate your love for the LGBTQIA+ and Two-Spirit community today, we remember the church has not always done so. We acknowledge the harm that continues to be done in your name today. As we bring our offerings, we bring also a renewed commitment to interrupting prejudice and practicing solidarity. We press on together until people of every sexual orientation and gender identity can live freely and without fear, receiving the love and support all people deserve. Thanks be to you, our guide and our help in making it so. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Jesus

(You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

**Loving God in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Music: What Is Our Mission in This Place *(tune, 'St. Peter' VU#344)*

Sending Forth

Beloveds, let us go with hearts full of courage,
that we might practice love that disrupts bigotry.
Let us go with minds open to experiencing God
in ways strange and unexpected,
in ways ordinary and everyday.
And let us go with joy,
for the Creator of all life goes with us.
Amen.

Closing Music: Finale Jubilante - Willan

We leave this time of worship knowing that we are not alone. While we cannot be together in body, we can continue to be together in spirit. Reach out. Call a friend. Call a neighbour. Share Kindness, Justice and Hope wherever you can.

This morning's worship service was commissioned for Affirming PIE Day 2020 by AU/SE and Affirming Connections from [enfleshed](#), which has its roots in the United Methodist church in the USA and beyond.

Lyrics

O God of All the Many Lands (from VU#523, adapted)

O God of all the many lands,
we lift our hearts in prayer,
for this our land of Canada,
a country wide and fair;
for mountain heights and northern lights,
for prairie lake and sea,
in gratitude for all these gifts
in their great majesty.

From far and wide we gather now,
to glorify your name,
to care for all across this land
where scarlet maples flame;
may justice here belong to all
and may our nation play
its rightful role in fostering peace,
the peace for which we pray.

May we be worthy of this land
and seek the common good,
which shapes a future destiny
in world and neighbourhood.
May this fair land, this Canada,
your own dominion be,
your people bless abundantly
from seas to Arctic sea.

God of All the World (MV#22)

God of all the world,
we have come to give you thanks
and become more like you.
God of all the world,
we have come to give you thanks
and become more like you.
In worship we long to be one
with each other and you.

We Are Pilgrims (VU#595, vv. 1,3 4&5)

We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

What Is Our Mission in This Place (*tune, 'St. Peter' VU#344*)

What is our mission in this place,
our vision for these days?
Our homes alive with love for God,
our cities filled with praise!

To welcome everyone in need
with free, affirming care;
to hear God's word, to teach the truth,
God's justice, find and share.

O Holy Spirit, move our hearts;
mend us and make us one,
in beautiful variety
our heaven on earth begun!

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