

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

Creation Time 2

September 18, 2022 – 10 am

** The live service will be broadcasted and recorded on YouTube, check your email for the link.*

The audio recording of the live service should be available by phone Monday afternoon at 613- 820-8104

Spark for the Congregation:

(Natasha Pearen, Gathering, Pentecost 2, 2022 Year C. Used with Permission)

Through this Season of Creation, we are on a journey toward healing our relationship with the planet. This week's theme is Hope. While it's hard to imagine that God will lift us out of the earth's mess, as people of faith, we must hold on to hope. The message of Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 talks about keeping the faith and investing in the future. This includes investing in our water and land and the well-being of people and communities, rather than wasting our earth's resources on short-term convenience.

Eco-Challenge:

The journey to saving Mother Earth begins with an act of hope. Take time to apply the three words: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. ***How much garbage does your household produce each week? How do you turn away from a rushed, instant and disposable culture?***

Gathering Music: A Voice is Heard: Watts/O'Brien

BCUC Music team

**Opening Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky VU509*

(Words & Music: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981)

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

Refrain:

Here I am Lord.
Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them;
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Welcome and Centering for Worship: Rev. Kim Vidal

Good morning! I welcome and greet you in the name of Jesus Christ on this second Sunday of Creation Time in the Season of Pentecost. We are glad that you have joined us today.

As we settle in to the routines of life that September brings, let's not forget to enjoy the wonder this time of year holds for us – cool nights for sleeping, days that are not too hot or too cold, the changing colours of nature, and the opportunities to reconnect with friends and colleagues. Let us think of this time of year – especially this year – as a season of hope and refreshing renewal.

Join us for fellowship & coffee after the service in the main hall.

Highlight some announcements.

Friends, this day, we offer our gratitude for the gifts of the earth lavishly offered to us by a loving Creator. May we do so with praise and thanksgiving and a commitment to care for the earth and to serve each other. Let us now gather in worship.

Lighting of Christ Candle: Wightman Family

(Scott Martin, Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, p 30. Used with permission.)

There once was a wonderful man who did wonderful things
and they said, "He is the light of the world."

In his light, the light of Jesus Christ, we gather.

**Call to Gather & Opening Prayer:* (Responsively)

Nicole Beaudry

(Richard Bott, Gathering, Pentecost 2, 2016 Year C. Used with Permission)

Earth.

The foundation upon which we stand.

Loam.

A place of growth, of nourishment, of life!

Dirt.

A place of work, a place of play.

Land.

Sacred. Holy. Ever strong and ever changing.

Filled with God's hope.

Alleluia!

Let us pray:

Turn us into fertile soil, God of all creation. Plant in us seeds of faith, of hope and of wonder that will grow into rich harvest. Help us to know that we and the land are inseparable – we are one. One in you. Amen.

Time for the Young at Heart: Nicole Beaudry

The Prayer of Jesus / Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

*Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kin-dom, the power and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.*

**Children's Hymn: "O Beautiful Gaia" MV41*

(Words & Music: Carolyn McDade; Arr., Lydia Pedersen, 2006)

Refrain:

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

1. Soil yielding its harvest, O Gaia, calling us home.
Soil yielding its harvest, calling us on. R
2. Waves crashing on granite, O Gaia, calling us home.
Waves crashing on granite, calling us on. R
3. Pine bending in windstorm, O Gaia, calling us home.
Pine bending in windstorm, calling us on. R
4. Loon nesting in marshland, O Gaia, calling us home.
Loon nesting in marshland, calling us on. R

Prayer for Illumination: (Unison) Reader: Dan Lanoue

Open these words to us, Holy God, and open us to the Word.

Let these passages guide our understanding and inspire our living. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 (NRSV)

Jeremiah Buys a Field During the Siege

32 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. ² At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, ³ where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

⁶ Jeremiah said, "The word of the Lord came to me: ⁷ Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' " ⁸ Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

⁹ And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and weighed out the silver to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰ I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the silver on scales. ¹¹ Then I took the sealed deed of purchase containing the terms and conditions and the open copy, ¹² and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah,

in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. ¹³ In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, ¹⁴“Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵ For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.”

Hear what God Creator is saying to all of us.

We listen and we respond with action.

Ministry of Music: Turn, Turn, Turn (to Everything there is a Season) Seeger arr. Emerson - BCUC Choir

Sermon: “Creation asks: Journey lightly upon me!” Rev. Kim Vidal

Prayers of the People: Rev. Kim Vidal

(With inspiration from Joe Milner, St. Louis University, <https://liturgy.sluhostedsites.org>)

God of us all, as the season changes once again and we move from summer freedom back to the regular routines of life – work, school, clubs, and committee meetings, help us to remember to look beyond our own busy-ness to both the beauty and the needs around us.

The prophet Jeremiah challenges us to look at the world with new eyes, to put our egos aside and remain faithful to God’s call of saving the earth, as we strive to become the people God need us to be, in the world as God envisioned it.

We pray: For this church that we may be servants of one another, particularly of those in need, and that this church be an example of love lived out in the world.

We pray: For greater awareness, that we may recognize our common humanity in spite of differences in race or culture, or status, and that we strive to accompany one another along the journey of life.

We pray: For a spirit of humility, that we may recognize all our gifts as gifts from God, gifts to be used and shared. And we pray that we may recognize our need for one another in our quest to become our fullest selves.

We pray: For a clearer recognition of healthy and unhealthy ambitions, that we may be aware of the motivations that stir our hearts, and respond to those that lead us closer to God and toward greater wholeness in ourselves, our communities, and the world.

We pray: For the poor and powerless in our society, that we may hear their voices, understand their pain, and humbly walk alongside them through life’s challenges, that we use our privilege to empower others rather than to lift ourselves.

We pray: For all who have been impacted by hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, wars or wildfires, that God will strengthen them, remove the obstacles which they encounter, and guide them to the assistance they need.

We pray: For healing and strength, that the Good News of Jesus may bring hope to the sick and strength to those who care for them. We pray especially for those in our faith family who are facing illness, injury, and grief. Let them feel the love with which we hold them.

We pray: For all of the burdens in our hearts, voiced or held in silent thought. All these we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Music Offering: Creation Calls: Doerksen BCUC music team

Invitation to Offer: Rev. Kim Vidal

We are called to plant seeds of grace, hope, and justice; to wait for God's mystery to work in the hearts and minds of others. The gifts we offer are seeds that reap a harvest beyond our imagining. I now invite you to offer your gifts of time, talents and treasures as our response to God's abundant love. Thank you for your love and support to BCUC.

**Offertory Hymn: VU 541 (Thomas Ken, 1674.)*

**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: (Unison)*

(Kate Gregory, Pentecost 2, Gathering 2017, Year A)

**Creator God, you gave us gifts and we have used them:
we offer them now to you in love and wonder.
Be pleased to accept our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: This is God's Wondrous World. VU 296*

(Words: Maltbie Davenport Babcock, 1904; Music: English traditional melody, adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard 1915; adapt. Stanley Oliver 1929.)

1 This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks everywhere.

3 This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad.

**Sending Forth:* (Responsively) Rev. Kim Vidal
(Robin Wardlaw, Gathering Pentecost 2, 2022, Year C. Used with Permission)

The covenant of God is with you and with all creation.

The covenant is for life, for peace, for hope abounding for earth.

Go in the love and goodness of God.

We will go to proclaim God's renewing hope for all of creation.

Go and be that hope in the name of God: Creator, Christ and Companion.

Amen.

**Sung Blessing – Go Now in Peace (Besig)*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there (Spirit) from above

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen.