



# Covenant

*The United Church of Canada*

a safe place for all people to worship

Ministers: the people  
and Rev. Cindy Désilets

19 November 2017. Pentecost 24A. (Green).

Acknowledgement of Land  
*(An act towards reconciliation)*

## *Gathering*

*The gong is sounded three times*

### ENTRY INTO THE CELEBRATION

The eastern sky announces to all, a new day has dawned.  
So on this new day, let us celebrate the richness  
and diversity of life.

### LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

*The candle is lit*

We light this candle to celebrate  
the inherent worth and dignity of every person  
and to share that love which is ultimately  
beyond even our cherished reason,  
that love which unites us. *(Adapt.SStock)*

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### HYMN: FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

VU 226

### OPENING SENTENCES

In this season of change  
**The sacred is in our midst.**  
In sounds of early morning  
**The sacred is in our midst.**  
In the faces of families, and those alone,  
the hurrying and the day dreaming  
**The sacred is in our midst.**  
In life touching other life, moments of kindness,  
sharing of joys, caring for others  
**The sacred is in our midst.**

### PRAYER OF AWARENESS

If we can see what is happening today,  
we will know much about the past and the future.  
But if we can see the people with whom we live,  
we will know much about humanity. *(Adapt.Kenneth L Patton/sscl)*

### HYMN: WHEN LONG BEFORE TIME

VU 248

## *Centering*

Silence and Music of Reflection

# *Exploring*

## READINGS FROM OUR BROAD RELIGIOUS TRADITION

From the World Around us: ‘Problem and Promise’  
J Donald Johnston. **Beginning Now/6.**

Traditional Gospel: Matthew 25:14-28 <sup>(NRSV)</sup>

## CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATION

**HYMN: SHE COMES SAILING ON THE WIND**                      **VU 380**

# *Affirming & Celebrating*

## PRAYERS

## OUR OFFERINGS

Let us bring our offerings as a symbol of our decision  
to be co-creators with God in a safer and more inclusive world.

## PRESENTATION

**We are called to make real the sharing of  
the gifts God has given to us.  
We offer what we have for the good of all. AMEN.**

# *Scattering*

## PARTING WORDS

Let us take on this week’s life with renewed hope and  
imagination...

*The Community Candle is extinguished*

May we go out from this place of celebration,  
to live lives of hope,  
to be nurturers of the vision of wholeness,  
and to serve as healers in this wounded world.

**With wisdom.**

**With courage.**

**With love.**

## WORDS OF BLESSING

Go boldly into the future which has been claimed by God.  
Know that the God who holds all things will be there,  
that Christ who calls us friend will walk beside us,  
and the Spirit who makes all things new  
will mark our way with light and hope.

**Amen. May it be so.**

## SUNG RESPONSE : LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY

**VU 468**

**Bulletin Cover from Jason Galloway**