

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2015 11:00 am Picnic church

The Land— Unsettling the Settler

Welcome!

Today's worship team:

Coordinators: Beth Baskin and Keith Nunn

Celebrant: Sherman Hesselgrave

Guest Musicians: The Fallen Angles

The Church of the Holy Trinity is a community of people who express Christian faith through lives of integrity, justice and compassion. We foster lay leadership, include the doubter and marginalized, and challenge oppression wherever it may be found. (Mission Statement, 2010)

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Incumbent: Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave

x.226

Children's programmer: Beth Baskin

x.305

For more information, visit www.holytrinitytoronto.org

The small piece of Turtle Island that we call Toronto has supported humanity for more than 10,000 years. This place, now called High Park, is the final resting place of many who lived here before settlers came.



As we gather here, we recognise the Wendat, great diplomats and farmers, who held this land when Europeans first came. We recognise the Haudenosaunee, fearsome warriors and hunters, who held these lands after death and disease pushed the Wendat north and east. We recognise the Mississaugas of the new Credit who, through alliance with the Haudenosaunee held these lands until very recent times.

We recognise and honour all people who have cared diligently and respectfully for these lands though all the years to the present day.

Musical Meditation

A Canadian Song

Susannah Moodie

Come, launch the light canoe!
The breeze is fresh and strong;
The summer skies are blue,
And 'tis a joy to float along.
Away o'er the waters!
The bright-glancing waters,
The many-voiced waters,
As they dance in light and song.

When the great Creator spoke,
In the long unmeasured night.
On the living day-spring broke,
And the waters own'd His might.

The voice of many waters,
Of glad, rejoicing waters,
Of living, leaping waters,
First hailed the dawn of light.

Where foaming bellows glide
To earth's remotest bound;
The rushing ocean tide
Rolls on the solemn sound.
God's voice is in the waters,
The deep, mysterious waters,
The sleepless, dashing waters,
Still breathe its tones around.

Prayer to the directions

adapted from a text attributed to Chief Seattle

Great Spirit of Light, come to us out of the East with the power of the rising sun. Let there be light in our words, let there be light on the paths that we walk. Let us remember always that gift of a new day and the opportunity to start again.

Great Spirit of Love, come to us with the power of the North. Make us courageous when the cold winds come. Give us strength and endurance for everything that is harsh, everything that hurts. Let us move through life ready to take what comes.

Great Life-Giving Spirit, we face the West, the direction of sundown. Let us remember that the moment will come when our sun will go down. Never let us forget that we must fade into you. Give us beautiful colour, so that we can come to you with glory.

Great Spirit of Creation, we welcome the warm and soothing winds from the South. Comfort and caress us when we are tired and cold. Unfold us like the gentle breezes that unfold the leaves on the trees. As you give to all the earth your warm, moving wind, give to us, so that we may grow close to you and to each other in warmth.



Opening Song

Called by Earth and Sky

Pat Mayberry

Refrain

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
Called by earth and sky.

1. Precious these waters,
endless seas, deep ocean's dream.
Waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.

2. Precious this gift,
the air we breathe, windborn and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

3. Precious these mountains,
ancient sands; vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song.

4. Precious the fire
that lights our way, bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.

Confession

**We confess that sometimes
we have talked when we should have listened
we have kept silent when we should have spoken up
we have remained comfortable when we should have challenged ourselves
we have put down when we should have lifted up.**

**We acknowledge the sins we have committed
and have allowed to be committed in our name.
and we ask forgiveness.**

silence

The voice of god is a drum.
It beats in the hearts of all humanity
through all time,
here in this circle and throughout all the world.

**We pledge ourselves to listen for that voice
speaking through others and from within ourselves.
We will be guided by it and
live into our hope for reconciliation and rebirth
with all our relations.**

Amen.

The Exchange of Peace

One: The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Announcements

Prayer after Announcements

All Grant, O God, that in these activities and events we may do your will
with strength, wisdom and compassion, for the good of your reign
of justice and peace. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

All: Spirit of unquenchable power and love,
when this world was fashioned in the great sea of space,
the morning stars sang together and the universe shouted for joy:
Open our souls to the wonders of creation and teach us to live faithfully
with all our relations on this good earth; *Amen.*

First Reading

In preparation for the gathering, the spirit of the Cedar trees came forward to bring goodness to the people.

A long time ago, the family of trees gathered and acknowledged one another.

At this great celebration each tree family spoke about how they would help each other, the plants, the animals and all living things.

Each tree family decided to not ask our great Mother Earth for too much space, therefore all are surrounded in their bark which is their house. They decided to take only enough space as they require to give life and purpose to all other relatives.

Some said they would come to life only during the sun months. The hard woods give thanks in the beauty of their dresses as they prepare for the winter rest.

Others said they would work all seasons and offer refuge, food to all other living

One Hear what the spirit says to the people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

An Ojibway teaching

things, plants, animals, winged ones. The Cedar said it would be an honour for their family to make provisions through all seasons. Their coats are life giving as the beautiful green becomes shelter and food during the harsh winter months.

During the recent gathering of the people, the drum sounded to honour and give thanks to all beings through its heart beat and songs. We are all caretakers of the water and land.



Song

Blue Boat Home

Peter Mayer

1. Though below me I feel no motion
Standing on these mountains and plains
Far away from the rolling ocean
Still my dry land heart can say

I've been sailing all my life now
Never harbour nor port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the Earth is my blue boat home

2. Sun, my sail and moon, my rudder
As I ply the starry sea
Leaning over the edge in wonder
Casting questions into the deep

Drifting here with my ship's companions
All we kindred pilgrim souls
Making our way by the lights of the heavens
In our beautiful blue boat home

3. I give thanks to the waves upholding me
Hail the great winds urging me on
Greet the infinite sea before me
Sing the sky my sailor's song

I was born upon the fathoms
Never harbour or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the Earth is my blue boat home



Second Reading

The Gospel according to Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.

A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!”

Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

One Hear what the spirit says to the people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence

Discussion and response to the songs, readings, and TRC recommendations.

Greet someone you don't know so well and share with each other what you know of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. What challenges and opportunities for reconciliation are offered to us by the readings, prayers and songs we have shared today. Additionally, discuss one or more of the calls to action contained in the TRC report and how you might commit yourself to that.



If you wish, there are some copies of the full TRC Call to Action available here for reference. Actions 46, 48, 49, 59, 60 and 61 are particularly addressed to churches, but there are many others that offer points of engagement for us. <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=890>

46. We call upon the parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement to develop and sign a Covenant of Reconciliation that would identify principles for working collaboratively to advance reconciliation in Canadian society, and that would include, but not be limited to:

- i. Reaffirmation of the parties' commitment to reconciliation.
- ii. Repudiation of concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and the reformation of laws, governance structures, and policies within their respective institutions that continue to rely on such concepts.
- iii. Full adoption and implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.
- iv. Support for the renewal or establishment of Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future.
- v. Enabling those excluded from the Settlement Agreement to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.
- vi. Enabling additional parties to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.

59. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary.

60. We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, Survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of residential schools and the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.

61. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement, in collaboration with Survivors and representatives of Aboriginal organizations, to establish permanent funding to Aboriginal people for:

- i. Community-controlled healing and reconciliation projects.
- ii. Community-controlled culture- and language-revitalization projects.
- iii. Community-controlled education and relationship-building projects.
- iv. Regional dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth to discuss Indigenous spirituality, self-determination, and reconciliation.

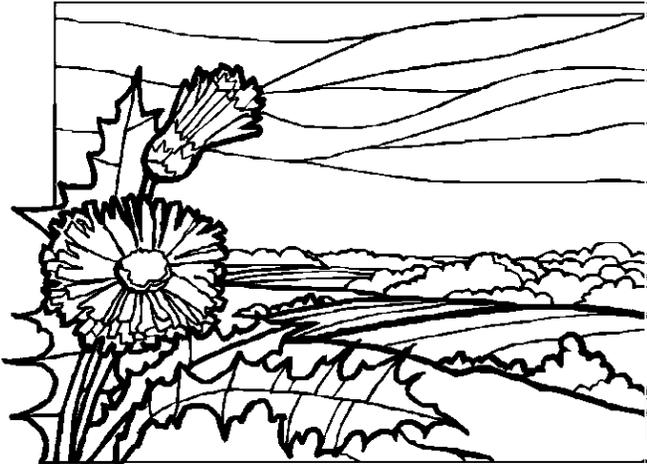


Offertory Song

Mother Earth

Neil Young

Oh mother earth, with your fields of green
once more laid down by the hungry hand
how long can you give and not receive
and feed this world ruled by greed



oh ball of fire in the summer sky
your healing light your parade of days
are they betrayed by the men of power
who hold this world in their changing hand

oh freedom land can you let this go
down to the streets where the numbers grow
respect mother earth and her giving ways
or trade away our children's days

respect mother earth and her healing ways
or trade away our children's days

Prayers of the People

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: Let us gather at God's table.

Presider: Grown-ups, are you here? Say Amen.

Grown-ups: **Amen**

Presider: Children, are you here? Say Amen

Children: **Amen.**

Presider: For the saints who are with us, say Amen.

All: **Amen.**

Presider: With all God's creation, say Amen.

All: **Amen.**

Presider: God most loving, God most wonderful,
when there was nothing,

you began creating everything in beauty and goodness.

When Miriam saved her brother Moses,

they endured to lead their people Israel to freedom;

when Samuel heard God's voice in the night,
 he said "yes" and became God's helper;
when Mary heard the angel's call,
 she joined with you and turned the world upside down;
and so with all God's children the whole creation sings this song of joy:

Santo, santo, santo. Mi corazón te adora! (VU 951)
Mi corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres Dios!
Holy, holy, holy, my heart is aching for you!
My heart desires to say the words: You are Holy God!

God most loving, God most wonderful,
when the world needed you, you came as Jesus, the child of our hope;
when he was twelve, Jesus explained the Bible to the teachers in the temple;
when he was a grown-up, he brought the children close to him.
When children got sick, he came to them and made them better;
when people were hungry, a boy offered his bread and fish so Jesus could feed them.

All Because you love us, O God, you invite us to come together around your table.

As Jesus gathered with friends for supper on the night before he died,
he took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and shared it with them, saying:
Take and eat; this is bread for the journey—my body, given for you.
All Do this to remember me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with them saying:
This is the cup of blessing—my blood shed for you and for all people.
All Do this to remember me.

Remembering Christ's dying, let the people say Amen. **Amen!**
Celebrating Christ's rising, let the people shout Amen. **Amen!**
Looking for Christ's coming again. let the people sing Amen. **Amen!**

**Christ has died, is risen, will come again to meet us,
and walks with us the Way of your love. Ho-ly kindom, come!**

God most holy, God most motherly, pour out your
Spirit upon this bread and wine so we may become
a community of love, joy, and friendship.

May we taste and see your gift of life, shared at this table, shared with the world, here and everywhere, now and always, and let all the people say Amen.

**Holy, holy, holy, “A-men!” we pray, with longing!
Let all creation cry “A-men!” Holy kindom, come!**

The Saviour's Prayer *The New Zealand Prayer Book*

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name
echo through the universe!
The way of your justice
be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will
be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth
of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today,
feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.
In times of temptation and testing,
strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure,
spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil,
free us.

For you reign
in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

Communion Song *Canticle of the Sun* Marty Haugen

chorus:
The heavens are telling
the wonder of life,
and all creation is shouting for joy.
Come dance in the forest,
come, play in the field,
and sing, sing to the glory of all things.

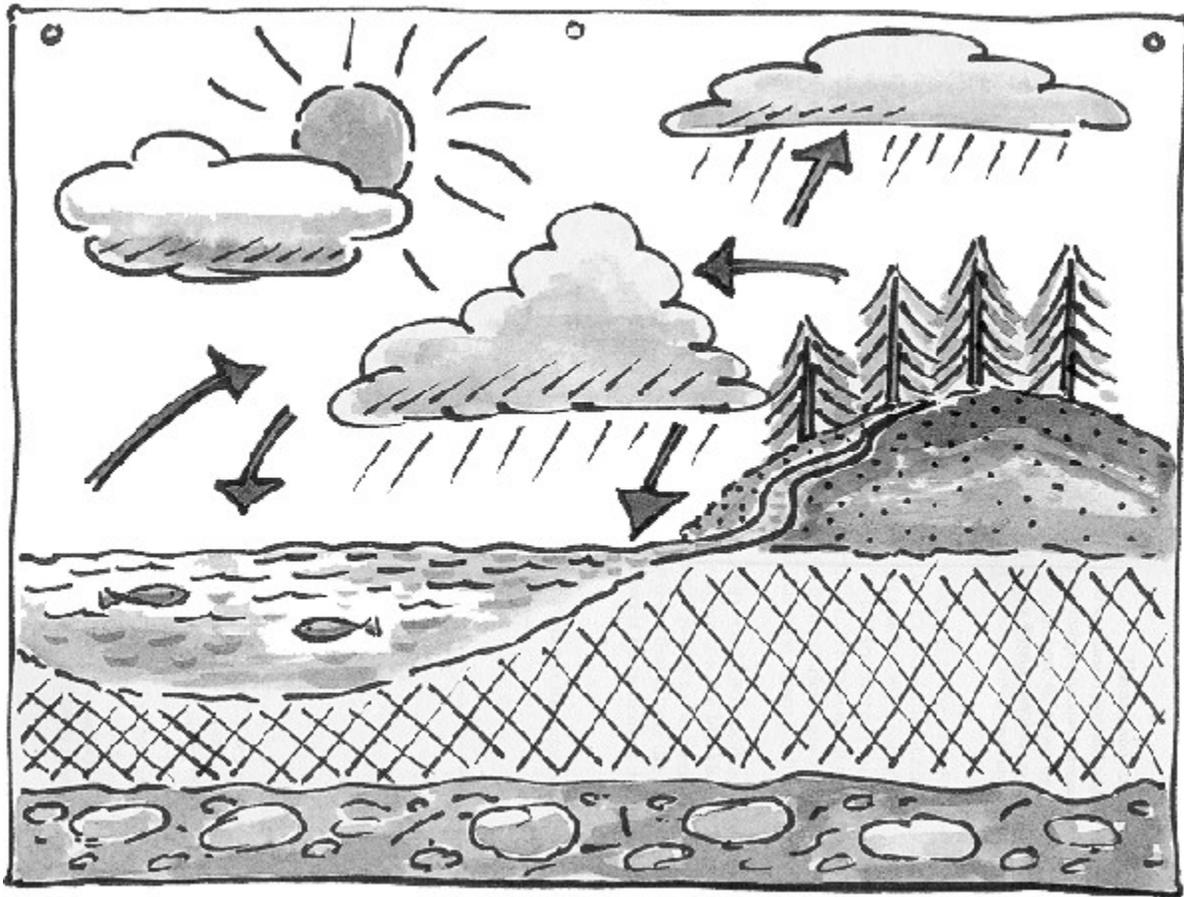
Sing to the sun,
the bringer of day,
he carries the power
of life in his rays;
the moon and the stars
who light up the way
across the earth.

Praise for the wind
that blows through the trees,
the sea's mighty storms,
the gentlest breeze;
they blow where they will,
they blow where they please
to please themselves.

Praise for the rain
that waters our fields,
and blesses our crops
so all the earth yields;

from death unto life
her mystery concealed
springs forth in joy.

Sing to the earth
who makes life to grow,
the creatures she made
to let her life show;
the flowers and trees
that help us to know
the heart of love.



Glory to God

All **Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Dismissal

Blessing, Restoring Right Relations

**All: May gentle rains soften the tensions within us,
and powerful ocean waves steady and strengthen us.
May the wisdom in the Earth open us to mystery.
Let the music of the forest delight us,
and simple wildflowers captivate our hearts.
May our ever-creating God continue to bless us.
Amen.**

Postlude

All My Life's a Circle *Harry Chapin*

Reconciliation resources

Stories

- The TRC will be releasing a records of all the stories it collected in both print and audio form.
- The Anglican Church of Canada is sharing stories of survivors of the Residential Schools that it has gathered over the years. You can see those at <http://www.22days.ca/>

Actions

- The TRC Calls to Action are here: <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=890>
- The KAIROS Winds of Change campaign is gathering together energy in the churches to act on the call for reconciliation: <http://www.kairoscanada.org/windsofchange/>
- At the 22Days site there is also a section devoted to action: <http://www.22days.ca/commitments>