

HASTINGS ROSENEATH PASTORAL CHARGE

The United Church of Canada  
WORSHIP SERVICE FOR October 1<sup>st</sup> 2017  
Creation Time 4 in the Season of Pentecost  
World Communion Sunday

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^MUSICAL PRELUDE: (Leader & Choir Enter)

(^) means, please stand as you are able,  
(Bold Print - Congregation Response)  
**LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCHES**

^CHORAL INTROIT: (In Unison) More Voices #7

*Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, gather us in, ground us, ground us in you.*

^CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

Light, love, and liberty are the gifts of God.  
*We come in peace.*  
Bread, wine, and friendship are the gifts of Christ.  
*We come in joy.*  
Wisdom, compassion, and grace are the gifts of the Spirit.  
*We come in hope. Let us worship God.*

^HYMN: VU#402 We are One

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Jamie York

CHOIR ANTHEM: (Roseneath)

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 17:1-17 (R)

Reader: May God bless this reading for God's people today.  
People: *Thanks be to God! Amen.*

FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL: "A Welcome Drink"

^HYMN: VU#766 As a Deer Pants for the Water

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:23-32 (L)

Leader: In this reading is Good News for God's people.  
People: *May the Spirit of the Living God be with us today! Amen.*

SERMON: "Claimed by the Holy One"

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

-4-

We ask that you would send your Spirit upon this bread and this cup that they, and we, might be the body of Christ – hope in this world.

In this hope, your people praise you:

*Holy God! Father, Son and Holy Spirit!*

*We give you praise now and forever!*

*Amen and Amen!*

(Communion served by intinction)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (Unison)

*Thank you God for food to make our bodies strong.  
Thank you God for friends to make our lives worthwhile.  
Thank you God for Jesus, who holds us in his heart.  
May the memory of his meal be strength and joy for us always. Amen.*

^HYMN: VU#468 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

^COMMISSIONING: (Responsive)

We are stardust,  
*for the carbon birthed in the stars comes to life in our bodies.*  
We are connected,  
*for everything we are and all we "possess" is enlivened by the Spirit's power of Love.*  
We are related,  
*for as the body of Christ we are sent forth,  
to love our neighbours as ourselves,  
to work for healing and for wholeness,  
to welcome the stranger as sister and brother.*

^BENEDICTION: Rev. Jamie York

^CHORAL BLESSING: (Go Now in Peace)

*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, watching from above,  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
A-a-men, A-a-men, A-a-a-men (Don Besig & Nancy Price)*  
MUSIC POSTLUDE:

**^OFFERING AND DEDICATION: (In Unison) VU#540**

*Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully*

**^PRAYER of DEDICATION: (In Unison)**

*Generous God... the gift of communing with your Son will  
be shared, as we remember that gift of sharing around the  
world this day. We bring before you our gifts—our time,  
our talents, our treasure. Bless this our offering this day. Amen.*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Table: (Rev. Jamie York)**

**^HYMN: VU#467 One Bread, One Body**

**Communion Liturgy:**

God is with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts!

***We lift our hearts to God!***

Let us give thanks to God.

***Thank you, God!***

We thank you, God – for so much this day.

A long time ago, you decided to start something new.

Out of that newness came *everything!*

Out of that newness came the stars in the sky,

the planets and moons. The water, the air – and life!

***Thank you, God!***

Here, in this place, on this planet,  
created life that took many shapes.

Single-celled creatures that became many-celled creatures.

Many-celled creatures that became plants, became animals,  
became human beings.

***Thank you, God!***

Throughout our history, we human beings  
have tried to understand how we came to be,  
and why we came to be –

and how to be in relationship with each other.

and also how to be in relationship with You!

Sometimes, we’ve not done a good job of listening.

Sometimes, we’ve not done a good job of loving.

Sometimes, we’ve not done a good job of being in relationship  
with you, or with each other.

***We are sorry, God.***

***We ask for your forgiveness.***

***We ask for your help.***

***Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds –  
so that we might live your love.***

When our ancestors made mistakes, you sent them guides to help them on  
their way. Priests and prophets, teachers and healers, grandmas and grandpas,  
who called people back to your love.

And you sent a child – Jesus the Christ - to be with us.

To teach us. To love us. To save us from ourselves.

***Thank you, God!***

Thank you, loving God! Jesus laughed with those who laughed,  
and cried with those who cried.

He learned what it meant to be one of us – human in all ways -  
in his love, he called us back into relationship with you.

And so we pray the words he gave to all of his disciples -

the ones that remind us that you love us

with all the love a mother can give,

with all the love a father can give – saying,

***Our Father, who art in heaven...***

On the night that Jesus was taken away,

by people afraid of what he was teaching of your love,  
he gathered with his friends.

He took a loaf of bread and gave thanks to you,

saying, “Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe,  
who brings forth grain from the earth.”

***Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe.***

He took the bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples  
saying, “Take this, all of you, and eat it.

This is my body, given for you. Each time you eat it... remember me.”

***Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe.***

He took a cup full of wine and gave thanks to you,  
saying, “Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe,  
who brings forth fruit from the vine.”

***Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe.***

He took the cup and gave it to his disciples

saying, “Take this, all of you, and drink it. This is my blood.

My forever promise to you and to everyone.

Each time you drink, remember me.”

***Blessed are you, Lord God of the Universe.***

Blessed are you, God most holy.