

Celebration of Ministry Service Living Skies Regional Council

September 26, 2021
Emily Carr
Jonathan Worrall
Melfort United Church



Processional Music – Tracey Smetaniuk

Music: Be Still My Soul (arr. Greg Howlett)





Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ's presence with us in this time and place. Of all the things this flame represents to us, individually, it also reminds us of our collective call to create community, which we animate together, through worship and service.

All:

May this flame unite us in these moments.

May it shine upon this community of faith,

Illuminating the face of Christ in all who gather here.

Amen



Welcome and Land Acknowledgement





Call to Worship

We are called to be the Church:

**To celebrate God's presence,
To live with respect in Creation,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

May this call inspire us and give us hope
as we worship together.

Amen.

(A New Creed, The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt.)



Opening Prayer

Creator, Holy Mystery, Source of Love,
we gather in this place, at this time,
to worship you with praise and thanksgiving.

Be in our midst, O God,

as together with the people of Melfort United Church,
and the Living Skies Regional Council,

we celebrate the ordination of Jonathan Worrall and the admission of Rev.
Emily Carr into our United Church of Canada.

May this time fill us with gratitude and hope.

**Creator, Holy Mystery, Source of Love,
hear our prayer. Amen.**



Prayer for Transformation

Creator God,

Today we wear orange to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools.

Today we wear orange and we pray for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling.

Today we wear orange and we are thankful for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice.

Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

Help us, God, to remember and act on this every day.*

**And so, we pray for the willingness and courage
to be transformed, to meet these challenges faithfully.
We pray that our transformation**



will inspire us to live with humility and kindness...

We pray that our transformation

**will allow us to be guided by Christ's examples
of compassion and justice...**

We pray that our transformation

**will allow the Spirit's encouragement
to shape our living and strengthen our faith...**

We pray that our transformation

will help us to reflect your generosity and grace...

Creator God, hear our prayer...

**Inspired by Honarine Scott's blog*

Music: Called by Earth and Sky (MV 135)





Words and music Pat Mayberry
Arr. Margaret Stubbington © 2005



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.






Precious these waters, endless seas,
Deep ocean's dream,
Waters of healing, rivers of rain,
The wash of love again.

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.



Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
Wind born and free.

Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
Our gathering and our grace.

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.




Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
Vast fragile land.

Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song.

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.



Precious the fire that lights our way,
Bright dawning day.

Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
Our faith and justice one.

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, called by earth and sky.

Scripture

- James 5: 13-20
- Mark 9: 38-41

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God!




Sermon: Sandra Beardsall



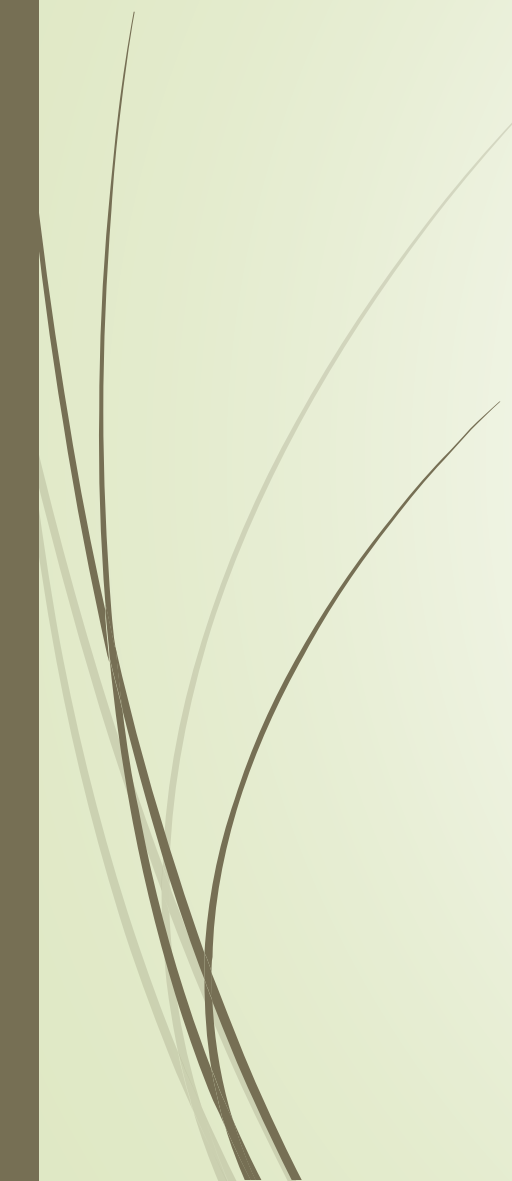
Music: Soil of God, You and I (MV 174)




Words and music: jim hannah © 1995
Arr. David Melhorn-Boe © 2006

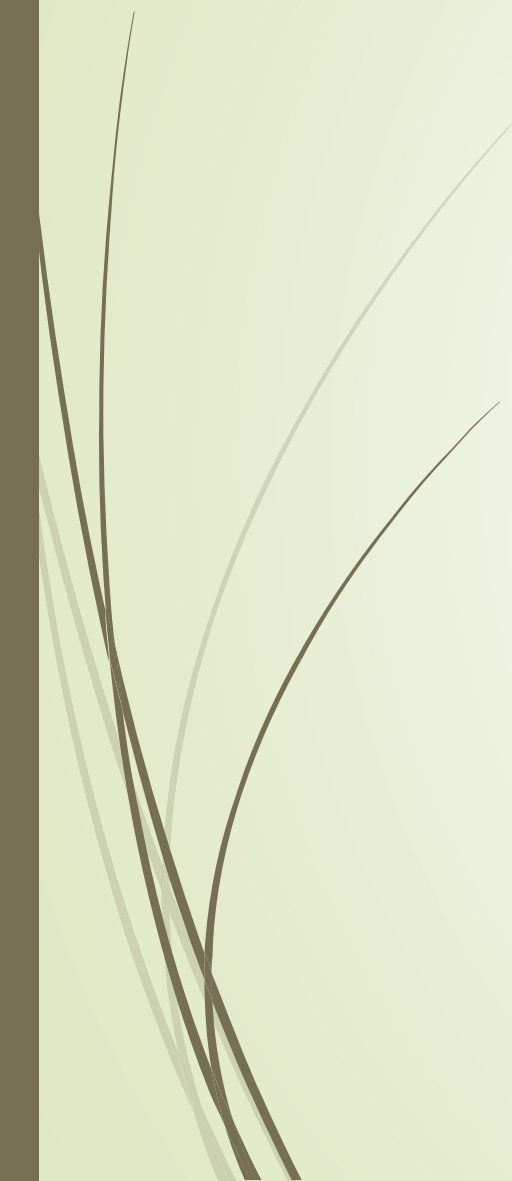



Soil of God, you and I, stand ready to bear
Seeds of faith nourished, by God's tender care.
Growing in everyone for here God is found.
All stand together, we are...Holy ground.



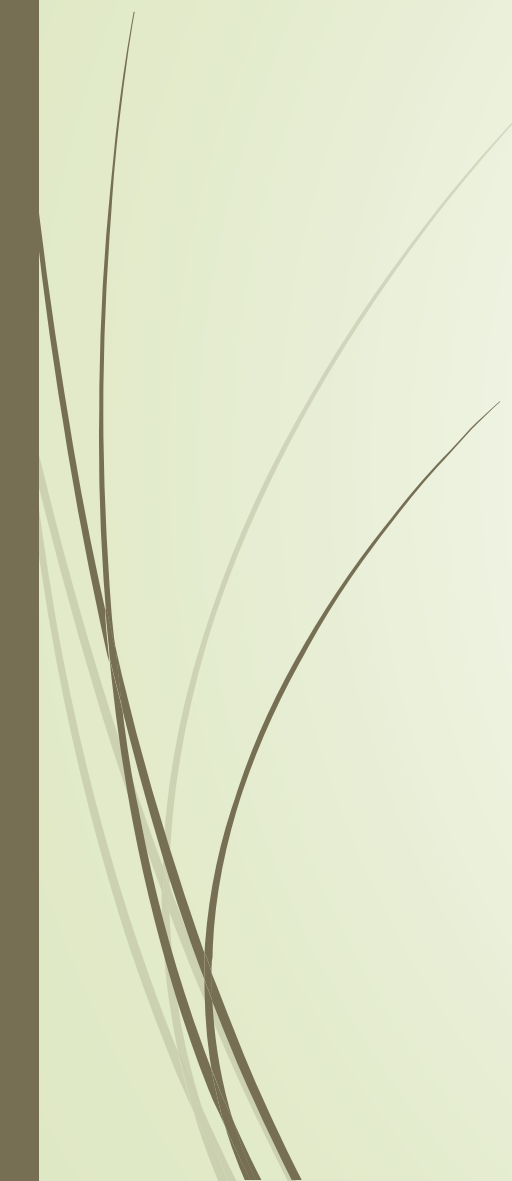


Soil of God, you and I, now ready to be
Part of God's promise, for others to see.
Open to everyone for here God is found.
All stand together, we are...Holy ground.





Soil of God, you and I, now called to rebirth,
Joining as partners, with all of the earth.
Living in harmony for here God is found.
All stand together, this is...Holy ground.





Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed

We are not alone

we live in God's world

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating

who has come in Jesus

the word made flesh,


to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.





**We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.



Celebration of New Ministries

Promises of the Congregation

Siblings in Christ, on behalf of the whole Regional Council, are you ready to support them in the ministry to which God has called them and for which they have offered themselves?

Congregation:

We are, God being our guide.

Will you offer your ministry to this persons, and receive ministry from them?

Congregation:

We will, God being our guide.



Act of Ordination – Jonathan Worrall





Celebration of New Ministries

Promises of the Congregation

Siblings in Christ, on behalf of the whole Regional Council, are you ready to support **Emily** in the ministry to which God has called them and for which they have offered themselves?

Congregation:

We are, God being our guide.

Will you offer your ministry to **Emily**, and receive ministry from them?

Congregation:

We will, God being our guide.




Act of Admission – Rev. Emily Carr



Music: All Creatures of our God and King (VU 217)

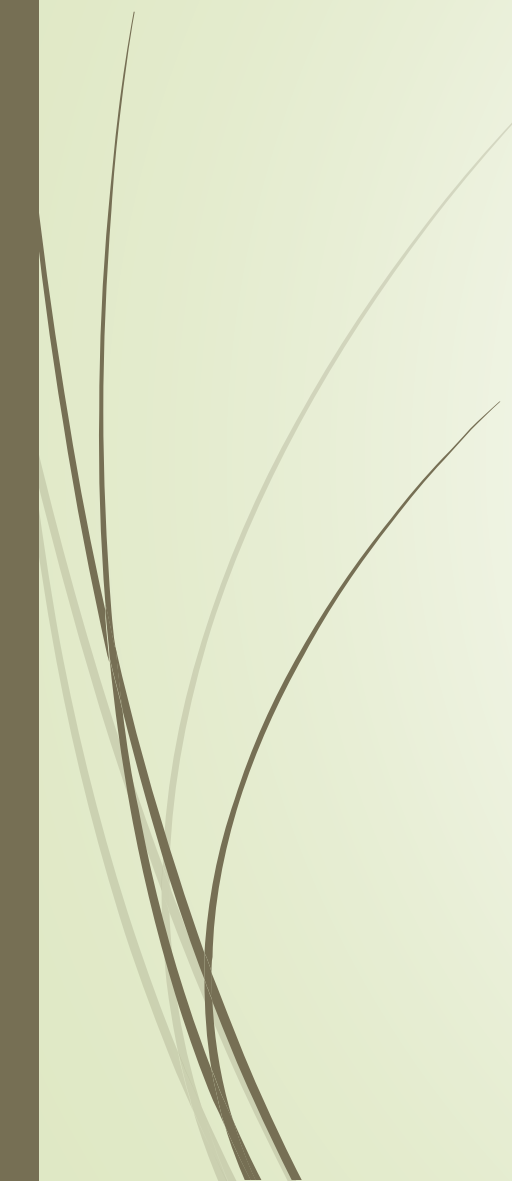



Words: St. Francis of Assisi, 1225; English trans. © G. Schirmer
Music: Geitliche Kirchengesänge, 1623



All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

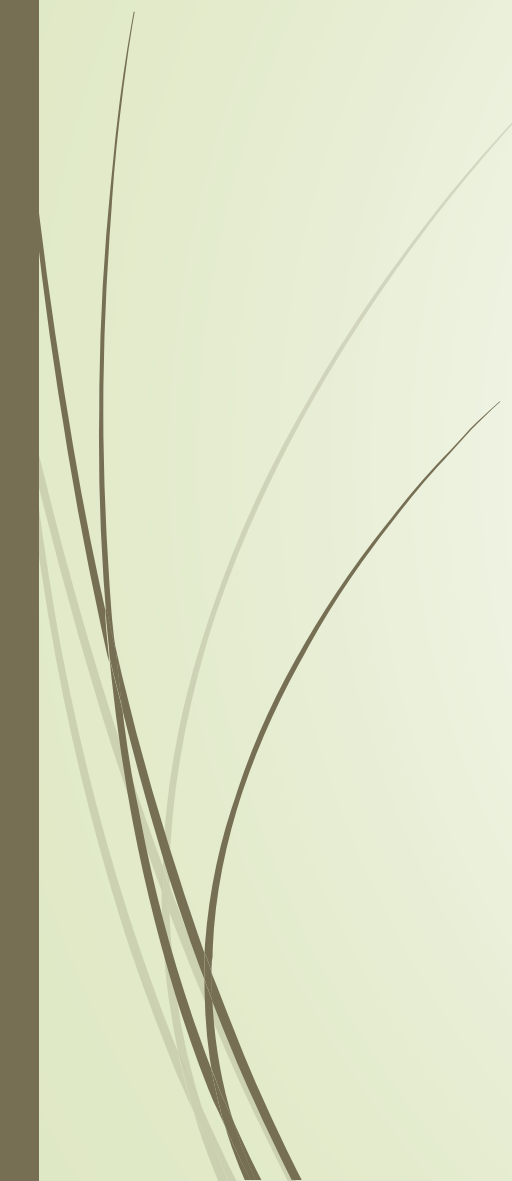
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
Soft shining moon with silver gleam,
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!





O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
Sing praises, hallelujah!

O rising morn, in praise rejoice;
O lights of evening, find a voice:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!





Earth, ever fertile, day by day

Brings forth rich blessings on our way:


Sing praises, hallelujah.

The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,

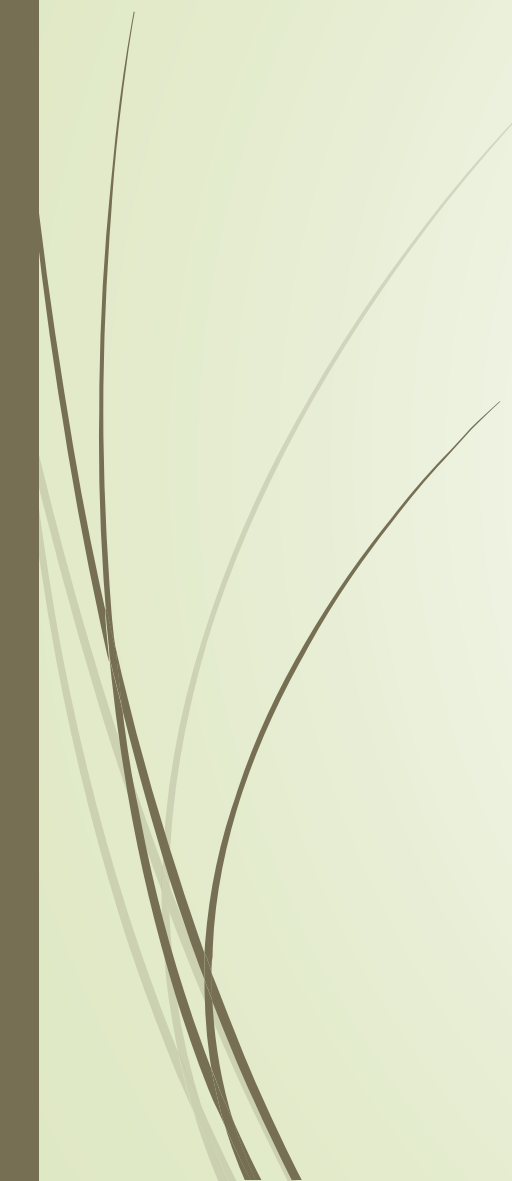

Let them God's glory also show:

Sing praises, sing praises,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!




And everyone of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part:
Sing praises, hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and yield up all your care:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!



Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness:
Sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!



Offering – for the Mission and Service Fund



**Ever-present God, with this offering,
we present also ourselves:
all that we have been,
all that we are,
all that we shall become,
and our resolve to walk in your way.
Accept us and our offering,
we pray for Jesus' sake.
Amen.**

(from 2019 Service of Praise)



Sacrament of Communion

(adapted from A Song of Faith, The United Church of Canada © 2006)

Invitation and Call to Give Thanks:

Carrying a vision of creation healed and restored...

Grateful for God's loving action...

We cannot keep from offering God our gratitude.

Song of Thanksgiving:

**God is creative and self-giving, generously moving
in all the near and distant corners of the universe.**

Nothing exists that does not find its source in God.

Our first response to God's providence is gratitude.

Thanks be to God!





Song of Creation:

**God creates the universe
and with it the possibility of being and relating.**

**God tends the universe,
mending the broken and reconciling the
estranged.**

**God enlivens the universe,
guiding all things toward harmony with their
Source.**

We are grateful for God's loving action.



Affirmation of Memory and Hope:

Grateful for God's loving action,
we cannot keep from offering God our praise
proclaiming the mystery of faith:

By becoming flesh in Jesus,

God makes all things new.

In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering,

God empowers us to live in love.

In Jesus' crucifixion,

God bears the sin, grief, and suffering of the world.

In Jesus' resurrection,

God overcomes death.

Nothing separates us from the love of God.

Breaking the Bread Filling the cup







Post Communion Prayer

In the sharing of this sacred meal,
let us pray for God's good news to be lived out.

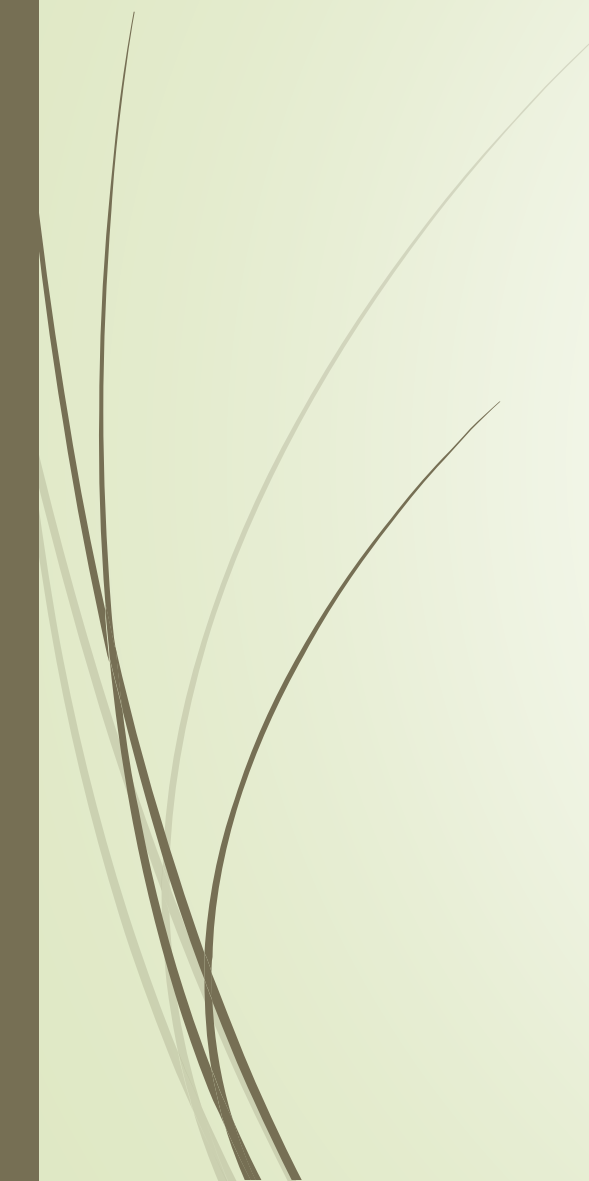
**Holy God,
we pray that we may become a church with
purpose:
where faith is nurtured and hearts are comforted,
where gifts are shared for the good of all,
where we may resist the forces
that exploit and marginalize,**





**show fierce love in the face of violence,
defend human dignity,
be members of a community
that is held and inspired by you,
corrected and comforted,
instruments of the loving Spirit of Christ,
mending creation.**

We pray in sincerity and hope. Amen.




Words: Adapted by Stephen C. Warner © 2003
Music: Rick Gunn © 2006



Refrain:


Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours.
Here on this earth,
Yours is the work,
To serve with the joy of compassion.



No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
No hands but yours to soothe al its suffering,
No touch but yours to bind the broken hope of the
people of God.

Refrain:


Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours.
Here on this earth,
Yours is the work,
To serve with the joy of compassion



No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
To find the lost, to gaze with compassion;
No eyes but yours to glimpse the holy joy of the
city of God.

Refrain:


Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours.
Here on this earth,
Yours is the work,
To serve with the joy of compassion



No feet but yours to journey with the poor,
To walk this world with mercy and justice.
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace for the
children of God.

Refrain:

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours.
Here on this earth,
Yours is the work,
To serve with the joy of compassion.



Through ev-'ry gift, give back to those in need:
As Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,
With ev-'ry gift a benediction, be to the people of
God.

Refrain:

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours.
Here on this earth,
Yours is the work,
To serve with the joy of compassion




Covenanting

We are here to join into a covenantal relationship...

Let us pray for God's grace as we covenant together:

**Uniting God,
you call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship:
to celebrate your presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to share in Christ's baptism
and eat at his table,**



**to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**Send your Holy Spirit
to bind us in full communion
so that we may be a uniting church,
embodying your love for the world.**

As one, we proclaim:

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
you are with us, we are not alone,
all glory and power be unto you.**

Amen.

(A prayer for the church inspired by John 17:21 and based on The United Church of Canada's "A New Creed" and The United Church of Christ's "Statement of Faith (in the Form of a Doxology)." Written for the full communion service of these two denominations.)

Promises and Symbols





Prayer

May God bless the covenant we have made
in this place, in this company.

**May the words, the actions, and the symbols
we have shared in this time,
serve to remind us of our interconnected
relationships.**

**May we live into this covenant
with a spirit of unity and grace. Amen.**




Commissioning and Blessing



Music – May God's Sheltering Wings (MV 214)



Words and music: Judith Snowdon © 2004



May God's sheltering wings, her gathering
wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms
sustain you,

And hold you in her love,

And hold you in her love.





Participants in this worship service:

Executive Minister – Shannon McCarthy

Presider – Dave Whalley, on behalf of the Regional Council Executive

Preacher – Sandra Beardsall

Ordinand – Jonathan Worrall

Laying on of hands – Lynn Bayne (on behalf of the Office of Vocation);
Jordan Cantwell, Dale Worrall

Admittand – Emily Carr

Musician – Tracey Smetaniuk

Members of the Community of Faith of Melfort United Church

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