

VIRTUAL CHAPEL SERVICE

October 7 and 10, 2020



“The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and
abounding in steadfast love.”

~ Psalm 130:8 (NRSV)



Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL”

AAHH 105

Refrain:

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name!**

**He has done great things,
She has done great things,
They have done great things,
bless God’s holy name!**

[Refrain]

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Presider Our hearts are hard, O God –
Many Soften them with your love.
Our hands are clenched, O God –
Open them with your grace.
Our feet are planted too firmly, O God –
Invite us to dance with you.
Our lives are not our own, we know –
Let us live and move and have our being in you, O God. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY” VERSES 1, 2, 3 UMH #139

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
Bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.
Hast thou not known his sustaining?**

**Praise the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with his love doth befriend thee.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Now let us come before God with words of confession:

Holy Lord, God of life, hear our prayer:

**Forgive us when we follow those paths that do not lead to life,
That lead instead to violence, or hate, or fear,
Paths that lead to dread and death.**

**Forgive us when we forget that you offer us life,
Life that is abundant and eternal,
Life that began at the creation of all things.**

**Forgive us, turn us to the right path,
and let your love and grace flow over us and the world.
We pray in Jesus' name and for his sake. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, hear the Good News: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Let

us proclaim the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

**Many
All**

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to pass the peace to each other by waving or by typing in the chat function in Zoom.

Peace be with you! **And also with you!**
Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

“FLOWER SONG / FLOR Y CANTO”

FRANCISCO X. ALARCÓN

every tree
a brother
every hill
a pyramid
a holy spot

cada árbol
un hermano
cada monte
una pirámide
un oratorio

every valley
a poem
in xochitl
in cuicatl
flower and song

cada valle
un poema
in xochitl
in cuicatl
flor y canto

every cloud
a prayer
every rain
drop
a miracle

cada nube
una plegaria
cada gota
de lluvia
un milagro

every body
a seashore
a memory
at once lost
and found.

cada cuerpo
una orilla
al mar
un olvido
encontrado

we all together—
fireflies
in the night
dreaming up
the cosmos

todos juntos—
luciérnagas
de la noche
soñando
el cosmos

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 103

NRSV

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

[Pause for 1 deep breath.]

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

This is a Jewish prayer. The Hebrew is a part of the original prayer. Today, we will pass over the parentheses; they are for your reference only.

One (Mekor HaChayim,) Source of Life, You have blessed each of us with Your Spirit. In Your Wisdom, you have made each of us a unique treasure.

Many **We are grateful.**

(M'ayan Chayeinu,) Wellspring of our Lives, cause us to flow with courage, strength, and compassion to live our stories openly, proudly, and joyfully.

Give us courage.

(Shekhina shel Ahavah,) Presence of Love, You embrace us with Your Love. May we embrace ourselves, our partners, our lovers, our friends, our children, our dear ones with the power of (Your Ahavah Rabbah,) Your Unending, Boundless Love.

Give us courage.

(Ru'ach HaShalom,) Spirit of Peace and Wholeness, open our eyes to the gifts and blessings we offer and receive from each other; open our hearts to welcome each other fully and truly; open our hands to embrace, to support, to lift each other (b'geela, b'reena, b'shalom, uv'rei-ut)—with joy, with song, with peace, and with deep friendship.

Give us courage.

Today, as we celebrate renewal, Pride, and community, let us walk together with strength, compassion, and love.

נְבָרֶךְ אֶת מַעְיָן חַיֵּינוּ תְּקַדֵּשׁ וּתְשַׂמֵּחַ אוֹתָנוּ (וְאֶת הַשַּׁבָּת)

N'varech et Ma'a-yan Chayeinu, T'kadesh u'T'Sa'me'ach Otanu [V'et HaShabbat]. Amen.)

We bless You, Wellspring of our Lives; May You fill us with joy and sanctity. Amen.

OFFERTORY

“MY TRIBUTE”

ANDRAE CROUCH

The Service of the Table

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you. / Y también contigo.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord. / Los elevamos al Señor.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. / Es digno y justo darle gracias y alabarle.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.
You have made from one every nation and people
to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Santo eres tú y bendito es tu Hijo Jesucristo.
Mediante el bautismo de su sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección,
diste nacimiento a tu Iglesia,
nos liberaste de la esclavitud del pecado y de la muerte,
e hiciste con nosotros un nuevo pacto
mediante el agua y el Espíritu.
Nos comisionó ser sus testigos hasta el último rincón del mundo
y hacer discípulos de todas las naciones,
y hoy su familia en todo el mundo se junta alrededor de su santa mesa.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his
disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renueva nuestra comunión con tu Iglesia por todo el mundo,
y fortalécela en cada nación y en medio de cada pueblo
para dar testimonio fielmente en tu nombre.
Mediante el poder de tu Espíritu, haznos uno con Cristo,
uno con los demás, y uno en la obra del ministerio a todo el mundo,
hasta que Cristo venga en la victoria final y podamos todos participar en el
banquete celestial.

**Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all
honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

CLOSING SONG "PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY" VERSES 4, 5 UMH #139

**Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"BLESS THE LORD"

INSTRUMENTAL REPRISE

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Greeting: United Church of Canada, *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services* (Etobicoke, Ontario: United Church Publishing House, 2000), 19.

Call to Worship: <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5417/worship-elements-october-8-2017>, Accessed June 9, 2020, From The Abingdon Worship Annual, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © Abingdon Press. , By Bill Hoppe on Sept 1, 2017

Opening / Closing hymn: Stanzas 1,3,5 trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878; Stanza 2 trans. S. Paul Schilling, 1986; Stanza 4 trans. Rupert E. Davies, 1983. Trans. Stanzas 2 (S. Paul Schilling) and 4 (Rupert E. Davies) © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House Administered by The Copyright Company, Setting Published 2007 by GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission of OneLicense.net

Confession and Assurance: <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>, accessed June 9, 2020

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