**Trinity United Church**

**August 3, 2025**

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Land Acknowledgement**

*For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land. We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality and cultures of the peoples of Lake Simcoe Nottawasaga Treaty 18 land wherein our church resides. We are thankful to share in the special spirit of this place, rich in the energy of Mother Earth and the love of all creation.”*

***God welcomes each of us just as we are.***

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

*As we draw together in community, the Christ Candle is lit, as a reminder that in the light of Christ’s love, each one of you is welcome, just the way you are.*

**Introit: VU 579 “The Church Is Wherever God’s People” (2 verses)**

**Announcements and Opportunities @Trinity**

**Gathering Prayer**

We feel your welcome gracious God, in this time of worship’

**You welcome each one of us, young and old alike.**

You welcome newcomers and long-time members.

**You welcome us to celebrate with familiar expressions of praise and prayer, and to experience new ones.**

May this time of worship renew our spirits and inspire our actions.

**Opening Prayer:**

Loving God, you gather us in from north and south, from east and west. You gather us in from all our wanderings, to be a community of love and justice. You are rich in blessings, and we give you thanks. Help us learn to be rich toward you, claiming the true wealth that comes from loving and serving you. Amen.

**Opening Hymn: VU 245 “Praise the Lord with the Sounds of Trumpet”**

**Prayer of Confession**

*(based on the work by John van de Laar.)*

How does it happen God?

How do we come to believe in scarcity?

In ‘not enough to go around;’

In ‘you gotta look after yourself’?

**How do we sometimes miss the plenty bursting out around us and fall for the deception that what we can grasp in our hands will never be enough?**

How do we grow so blind, that we miss the beauty and life, joy and laughter, sharing and love, that surround us?

**How poor we can become, and how poor we can make others, when we lose sight of your infinite, overflowing abundance;**

because we sometimes think that sharing and giving leaves us with less;

and in our fear we find our wants are never quite satisfied unless we have far more than is needed.

**Forgive us and teach us about your generosity again; remind us that you are able and willing to do far more than we can imagine.**

Open our eyes to the plenty we enjoy, the plenty we can s hare, and all the plentiful goodness in our world that cannot be owned but can be enjoyed by all.

*…a pause for silent contemplation*

**Words of Assurance**

O God, in your grace, you enable us to reflect on our ingrained attitudes, our natural reluctance, our fear of the unknown and our lack of trust, which prevent us from being your faithful people.

**In your love, we find a fresh willingness to act as followers of Jesus Christ.**

The healing forgiveness of Christ’s peace is ours.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Hymn: VU 574 “Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love”**

**Sharing The Children’s Time**

***God Speaks to Us with Peace and Assurance***

**Hosea 11:1-11***(God cares for Israel like a mother for a child.)*

**Psalm 107:1-9, 43 (VUp.831 Part 1 with choir refrain)**

**Colossians 3:1-11** *(Set your mind of things that are above.)*

**Luke 12:13-21** *(The rich fool who builds bigger and bigger barns.)*

**Message:  “Silver Dollars” (Rev. Mary Elizabeth Piercy)**

**Hymn MV 44 “Shadow and Substance”**

***God Supports and Lifts Us***

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:12-13 in The Message – see below)**

**Acknowledging our Offerings in Support of Trinity United Church’s ministries**

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the many gifts of time, talent, money and prayer that allow this faith community to continue to share God’s love and hope in our world.

**Let us Pray:**

**Dear Lord, we offer our gifts to you in love, trusting you will bless them and us. May all that we offer become tangible expressions of your love at work in the world for Christ’s sake, Amen.**

**Closing Hymn VU 606 “In Christ There Is No East or West”**

**Commissioning**

**May we go from this time of worship, in the certain knowledge that the love of God is ours to share, the peace of Christ is ours to extend and the light of the Holy Spirit is ours to offer.**

**Benediction**

May the grace of Christ attend you,

The love of God surround you,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit keep you, this day and forever more,

Blessings in your week,

Amen.

**Choral Blessing: VU 424 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”**

**Music to Inspire our Serving**

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Thought for the Week

*Lord of gifts, share with us a hunger for the bread of your kingdom; give to us a yearning impatience with injustice; free us from clinging to debts gone bad; teach us to pray with honesty in words filled with earth and lit by desire; through Jesus Christ, our Jubilee.*

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| The CottageSunday Musings Jul 27Diana Butler Bass |