



Sunday, February 14, 2021  
~ Transfiguration Sunday ~  
Virtual Service

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Worship Team: Rev. Pirie Mitchell, Dan Leaver, the Melville/Cline family

Music Team: Karen Schuessler, Hymn Leaders (previously recorded videos), Senior Choir (previously recorded video)

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VU = red hymnal Voices United  
Please sing along at home; we have provided the lyrics!

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**Prelude:** My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (arr. Hayes) Karen Schuessler  
(previously recorded on August 23, 2020)

**Welcome and Life and Work of the Church** Rev. Pirie Mitchell

**Lighting of the Christ Candle** Dan Leaver

**Indigenous Land Acknowledgement** Rev. Pirie Mitchell

**Call to Worship** (in unison) Dan Leaver

We are called to this moment of remembering and worship. We continue down the road of recalling past oppression, caused by the elite of a society to literally millions of people, over the centuries, who were oppressed into slavery. In our call this morning we are reminded that Jesus lived in a time and place where slavery was part of the social fabric of the day. Let us bear witness to that injustice of the past and erase it from our world today.

**Prayer of Approach** (in unison) Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Oh God, in our place of learning at the feet of Jesus of Nazareth, we are reminded that he never endorsed slavery as a just part of the world he imagined. In his Kingdom, your Kingdom, all people were welcome as brothers and sisters.

**Help us remember that, especially today, as we deal with those folks who do not reflect our convenient colour and culture. It is so easy to treat those who do not look like us, or speak like us, or who eat like us, or who are different from us with a condescending attitude. These attitudes need to change. Help us do that. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

VU 559 all verses

(previously recorded by Marilynne McNeil on Sept 27, 2020)

1. Come, O Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing your grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing  
call for songs of endless praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of God's unfailing love.
2. Here I pause in my sojourning,  
giving thanks for having come,  
come to trust, at every turning,  
God will guide me safely home.  
Jesus sought me when a strange,  
wandering from the fold of God,  
came to rescue me from danger,  
precious presence, precious blood.
3. O, to grace how great a debt  
or daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to you.  
Prone to wander, I can feel it,  
wander from the love I've known:  
here's my heart, O, take and seal it,  
seal it for your very own.

**Learning with Children**

Dan Leaver

**Lord's Prayer** (in unison) (VU page 921)

John & Keely Melville and Jen Cline

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Scripture:** (Secular Reading) Slavery in the Roman Empire

Dan Leaver

**Special Music:** Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit (arr. Dawson)

Senior Choir  
(YouTube video, previously recorded 2015)

**Message:** Let My People Go, Part Two

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

**Hymn:** Great Is Thy Faithfulness

VU 288 verses 1 & 3  
(previously recorded by Kevin Wardle on August 16, 2020)

1. Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -  
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!*

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow -  
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. *Refrain*

**Offertory Prayer**

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Your continued financial support is most gratefully appreciated. <https://wesleyknox.com/givings/>

Lord we come to your alter today with our gifts of time and treasure. Accept these our gifts from our hands and help us tom continue our volunteer work on behalf of your son's ministry. Give us the strength to carry on our collective efforts despite the pandemic surrounding us all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

**Prayers of the People**

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

O God we pray in remembrance of the enslaved peoples throughout history. In particular we pray that we, in our free society, may sense the misery of those who have gone before us in servitude. Their lives were, in most times, devoid of any sort of joy, in contrast to the people, who are free by birth or from war, have enjoyed. Help us appreciate in our generation, what freedom of movement and choice really is. Let us remember that Jesus called us to a place he called The Kingdom of Heaven where all live in harmony with each other and are free to choose their own destiny in life.

This month we celebrate the lives of our black neighbours. They have endured historically the slings and arrows of prejudice since freedom was declared from official oppression in 1833. They, like their ancestors, have made significant contributions to the fabric of Canadian life. Many of their forefathers were brought to this country in chains to act as enslaved servants to the more powerful elite of the nation. We who are descended from the elite, ask our forgiveness.

We pray as well today for the damage we have inflicted on the indigenous peoples of Canada. Their ancestors were victims of the first slave group in this nation. Today they also suffer from the prejudice and racism of the majority. We, the people of the convenient skin colour and misplaced power, still have not loosened the bonds of emotional and social slavery. Help us O Lord to see the ongoing injustice we perpetuate on our neighbours and give us the courage to change. In Jesus name we change. Amen.

**Hymn:** For the Fruit of All Creation

VU 227 all verses

(previously recorded by Sheila LeClair on July 12, 2020)

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
3. For the harvest of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**Commissioning**

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

We know the errors of our ways. Being a neighbour is a much better option than being an oppressor. We have the choice. Help us to choose the path Jesus would advise.

**Benediction**

Being armed with the understanding that kindness and understanding Jesus' Kingdom we can change to a neighbour rather than a person of disinterest. Amen.

**Congregational Response** (in unison)

VU 298

(previously recorded by Marilynne McNeil on September 27, 2020)

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,  
walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.**

**Postlude:** Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit (arr. Carter)

Karen Schuessler

(previously recorded on August 23, 2020)

**WK Coffee Time**

Stay tuned to see who Glen or jane speaks with this week!