

September 14, 2014

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Blessing of the Backpacks

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all. All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

<u>Approach</u>

Gathering Song VU #395 - "Come In, Come In and Sit Down"

Call to Worship

- One: We are all about to enter a new time.
- All: What time might that be?
- One: Creation time, when the colour green changes to orange.
- All: Oh, Creation time when life takes on a new rhythm, when we shift our attention to new adventures.
- One: Now in the spirit let us worship the presence of God as we sing...
- Hymn VU #296 "This is God's Wondrous World"

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Holy light-giving God, we live in your world which is beautiful and wondrous to behold. You have called forth the mountains and made the valleys fruitful. Your waters are lifegiving and refreshing. You have painted the birds of the air and the flowers of the field with vibrant colours. We thank you for the ability to appreciate the beauty that is around us. Merciful God, we know that we have not always treated your creation as we should. We have made parts of your world inhospitable to all life. We have behaved as if we are lords and masters of this planet instead of caregivers. Let us turn back while there is still time to find our true place in your creation. AMEN (adapted from Gatherings, Fall 2014)

Words of Assurance

Children's Time / Blessing of the Backpacks

* Hymn MV #145 – "Draw the Circle Wide"

The Word

Scripture Readings – Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. THANKS BE TO GOD!

Response - MV #95 - "How Deep the Peace (repeated)

Meditation - "I'm sorry!"

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem - "For Love Shall Be Our Song"

The Response

Announcements / Minute Person – Judi Olson Chiswell

Offering / Response (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.

Pastoral Prayer

- * Hymn MV #94 "Love Knocks and Waits" (tune VU #344)
- Benediction / Response (VU #575 v.1) I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister Luci Toews, Church Administrator Myrna Hagues, Organist Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers June Kaan, Liturgist

Ushers: Lloyd & Chris Smith Greeters: Darren & Carolyn Paul