

**Sunday October 3, 2021  
The Kingdom of God**

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We were created in relationship and for relationship.

**People:** **We are created for community!**

**Leader:** God knew it was not right for us to be alone.

**People:** **We are created for community!**

**Leader:** Through Jesus Christ, God entered into human relationship with us.

**People:** **We are created for community!**

**Leader:** We rejoice in our unity with all humanity.

**People:** **We are created for community!**

**Opening Prayer Unison**

**Lord as we gather around this wonderful meal  
everywhere and in every place;  
bless us all your children.**

**As we eat this bread and drink this cup  
linking arms around the world,  
pour your grace into us all.**

**Grace us with your presence  
as we quietly and loudly pray to you.**

**May we see in each other  
your light, your love and you.  
May it not matter our differences,  
our names, our languages,  
our looks, and our way of doing things.  
May what matter today and everyday be that we are one in you.**

**May you strengthen those whose lives feel shattered,  
don't make sense, in crisis, and experiencing loss.**

**May you say the healing word to those who need it.  
May you bring the human touch of love  
to those who have not been touched.  
May you love the unloved through us.**

**May lives be awakened to you, Lord,  
to your love and to your kingdom  
whose door is always open to all.\***

\*written by Rev. Abi and posted on **A Place for Prayer**. <http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/>

**Hymn #558: O How Glorious, Full of Wonder**  
*(Please see separate attachment for the score)*

*Hymn Leader: Jim Tilton*

- 1) O how glorious, full of wonder is your name o'er all the earth,  
God who wrought creation's splendor, bringing suns and stars to birth!  
Rapt in reverence we adore you, marveling at your mystic ways.  
Humbly now we bow before you, lifting up our hearts in praise.
- 2) When we see your lights of heaven, moon and stars, your power displayed,  
Who are we that you should love us, creatures that your hand has made?  
Born of earth, yet full of yearning, mixture strange of good and ill,  
From your ways so often turning, yet your love does seek us still.
- 3) You have set us in communion with the wonders of your hand,  
Made us fly with eagle pinion, pilgrims over sea and land,  
Soaring spire and ruined city, these our hopes and failures show,  
Teach us more of human pity, that we in your image grow.
- 4) O how wondrous, O how glorious is your name in every land,  
God, whose purpose shines before us toward the goal that you have planned!  
Yours the will our hearts are seeking, conscious of our human need.  
Spirit in our spirit speaking, make us yours, O God, indeed.

**Prayer of Confession Unison**

**God-made-flesh,  
Bone of our bone,  
We confess that we think we can go it alone,  
That we try to do it all,  
That in doing so, we neglect the gifts you have given us:  
The bone of our bone,  
The flesh of our flesh,**

**The bodies you created,  
And the relationships you created us for.  
Jesus Christ, you who lived in a human body,  
Call us to community.  
Remind us that in you we are one.  
Awake in us a respect for one another,  
And celebrate with us the diversity within that unity.  
May it be so now and forever. Amen.**

*Moments for Reflection and Silence*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

You are the divine creation, and it is not right for you to be alone.  
Know now that you are forgiven  
and called back into relationship with God and with one another.

### **Passing of the Peace**

Pastor:       The Peace of Christ be with you  
People:       **And also with you!**

### **Reading**

Mike Crompton

### **Psalm 8 (NIV)**

8:1 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

8:2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

8:3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

8:4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

8:5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

8:6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

8:7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

8:8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

8:9 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## **Special Music**

Jim Tilton

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Mark 10:13-16 (NIV)**

#### **Jesus Blesses Little Children**

<sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup> And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

## **Musical Interlude**

**Sermon:** The Kingdom of God

## **Music for Meditation**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Hymn #537** Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed (verses 1 and 2)

**1) Christian, rise and act your creed;  
let your prayer be in your deed;  
Seek the right, perform the true,  
raise your work and life anew.**

**2) Hearts around you sink with care,  
you can help their load to bear;  
You can bring inspiring light,  
strengthen them to do the right.**

## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer **Unison**

### Offering Invitation

In communion with one another,  
let us share what we have received,  
knowing that we are one flesh with all humanity.

### Offering and Dedication **Unison**

**God of all creation,  
breathe your life-giving breath upon these gifts  
that they might be a blessing to all flesh.**

## Service of Holy Communion

### Invitation

### Words of Institution

### Sharing the Elements

### Communion Prayer **Unison**

**As we eat this meal together and as we drink this juice of life in each other's presence grant unto us an emerging, fulfilling, and redeeming sense of life calling. In this holy meal of communion, we feel the allure and enticement of fellowship enriching us and making us more able to serve you and your ends in life. With eternal gratitude we give you thanks. Amen.**

### Benediction **Unison**

**As you leave this sacred space,  
live out your connection with one another,  
knowing that all humanity is  
bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh,  
one world communion. Amen!**