

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost, September 10, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Season of Creation

\*You are invited to say or sing the **bold print**

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

*Out of grace beyond imaging, God created us.*

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** Everlasting Joy by Lani Smith

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*Hewitt Holmes*



We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the people with whom the Three Fires Confederacy: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, was agreed upon.

We accept our responsibility as Treaty people on this territory wherein Collier Street United resides.

We honor the heritage and stewardship of this land.

As we gather to worship and work at Collier Street United,

**we recognize that we have assembled on sacred ground,  
a traditional gathering place for many peoples of Turtle Island.**

**We commit to honoring the covenantal relationship with the First Peoples: Métis and Inuit.**

**We move forward with reconciliation and good relations with all people.**

#### LIGHTING OF THE WORSHIP CANDLE

*Hewitt Holmes*

Response: MV#26 "Your Love is Amazing" (v. 1 and chorus)

#### WELCOME & NEWS

*Hewitt Holmes*

How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favoured.**

### WE PRAISE AND PRAY

*We rejoice that we can bring thanksgiving and praise to God who offers us grace freely.*

#### SILENCE

#### ^WORDS FOR THE GATHERED:

*Hewitt Holmes*

This is the day for a new beginning.

**This is the time of God's grace.**

**This is the moment of faithful response.**

Praise God in the assembly of the faithful.

**We will make a melody to God and sing a new song.**

**We will celebrate the gift of God's grace.**

The energy of God's grace fills this place.

**This is the moment to claim God's faithfulness.**

**^ PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND GRACE**

*Hewitt Holmes*

**\*HYMN:** VU#266 "Amazing Grace" v. 1,2,5

CHOIR/SANDRA RUTTAN

**^WORDS FOR THE RENEWED:**

As we worship this day,

we hear your convincing voice that says it's okay to begin anew.

**Deep in our hearts, we believe that God accepts and renews us with  
grace.**

**We will walk confidently in a new direction of pardon and peace.**

Thanks be to God,

That we can become co-creators of grace and goodness.

**SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 958 "Halle, Halle, Halle"

SANDRA RUTTAN

**WE GROW IN THE FAITH & PRAY**

*Through the Bible, God speaks to us through words of grace from leaders, prophets, Jesus, and ordinary people.*

**^WORDS FROM SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 145:8-14 & Ezekiel 33:10-15 (Inclusive Bible)

*Robin Milani*

*Let us listen to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...*

<sup>8</sup> YHWH, you are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

<sup>9</sup> **YHWH, you are good to all and compassionate toward all your creatures.**

<sup>10</sup> All your creatures will praise you, YHWH, and your holy people will bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They will tell of the glory of your reign and speak of your strength.**

<sup>12</sup> You make known to all humankind your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your reign.

<sup>13</sup> **Your reign is a reign for all the ages, and your dominion endures from generation to generation.**

<sup>14</sup> You lift up those who are falling and raise up those who are oppressed.

**Ezekiel 33:10** “Now then, mere mortal, say to the House of Israel, ‘You’ve been saying things like this, complaining, “We are burdened by our sins and our offences, and we waste away because of them. How can we survive?”’

<sup>11</sup> Say to them, ‘As I live, says Sovereign YHWH, I take no pleasure in the death of sinners—I prefer that they turn from their ways and live. Turn back! Turn back from your evil ways! Why should you die, House of Israel?’

<sup>12</sup> “Therefore, mere mortal, say to your Israelite sisters and brothers, ‘When good people disobey, their previous integrity will not save them; and when evildoers repent, their previous sinfulness will not make them fall.

<sup>13</sup> If I tell the just that they will surely live, but then they trust that their previous record will save them even when they do evil, none of their just works will be remembered. They will die for the evil they committed.

<sup>14</sup> And if I say to sinners, “You will surely die,” and they turn away from their sins and do what is just and right—

<sup>15</sup> if they restore what they took in pledge for a loan, return what they stole, follow the decrees that give life and turn from evil, they will surely live, they will not die.

*This is life-giving Word, for the People of God. Thanks be to God!*

**PIANO ANTHEM:** “By the Grace of God” by Anthony Giamanco

**REFLECTION:** “Creation Season – The Grace of God”

*Hewitt Holmes*

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe, O Most High,  
you speak to us in song, silence, word, witness, worship, and work.

**O Liberating Jesus,  
we believe You call us to listen and follow,  
to turn around and change direction,  
leaving behind all that drags us down.**

O Holy Spirit,  
we believe You speak to us as we discern and discuss,

always calling us to grace, love, and justice.

**We believe, O God, that You are always heard best in the  
community. Help us to discern Your voice.**

*(URC, Worship Resources, 2023)*

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

*With the needs of family, friends, and the vulnerable, God challenges us to exercise grace.*

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:**

Our Hebrew ancestors offered God the best of their flocks and crops to honour  
the God of grace.

We bring symbols of our labour, dedicating them and ourselves to upholding  
the highest human living values: grace, love, peace, and justice.

May our offering be a joyous expression of our worship.

**DOXOLOGY #541** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

### **OFFERING AND INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

*Hewitt Holmes*

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** *(Caribbean Version with Inclusive Language)*

## **WE GO TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY**

*In a world where inequality reigns and the powerless struggle, God calls us to acts of grace and goodness.*

**^HYMN:** VU#265 "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" v. 1,2,4 **SANDRA RUTTAN**

### **^BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG:** VU#884 "You Shall Go Out" **SANDRA RUTTAN**

**PIANO POSTLUDE:** "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" arr. Mark Hayes

*(We remain grateful for the offerings given today and electronically)*

## **WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

*Welcome to Worship at Collier Street United Church.*

*We are glad you have joined us today in person and online, our worship leaders are:*

Hewitt Holmes – Minister of Worship, Congregational Care and Leadership

Sandra Lisa Ruttan – Music Director

Senior Choir – Music leadership

Terry Tizzard and Jessica Wenzel – Audio & Visual Projections