

strangers, visitors, forgotten friends—
the ones who need an outstretched hand.
People of God,
look around and see all the images of God assembled here.
In me, in you, in each of us,
God's spirit shines for all to see.
People of God, come. Let us worship together.

"Praise to the Lord"

Psalm 113 - VU 835 vs. 1

***Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's servants.
Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.
From the rising up of the sun
may the Lord be praised, praise to the name of the Lord!***

GATHERING PRAYER: (*in unison*)

**Our God, as a gentle rain soaks the earth,
may your peace and love fall upon us,
bringing growth and life.
Soak into our innermost being.
Quiet all that makes us anxious.
Help us to linger in your presence,
and send us out refreshed, to carry your peace to others.
Amen**

***GATHERING HYMN** – "Seek Ye First The Kingdom" VU 356

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

PRAYER OF HUMILITY: (*responsively*)

Sometimes we hurt our friends.
Sometimes we hurt ourselves.
Sometimes we hurt God.
Our prayer of Humility is a chance to say "We're sorry."

Giver of life,
in the midst of a plundered earth we groan with creation:

have mercy on us.

Giver of life,
in the midst of poisoned waters we groan with creation:

have mercy on us.

Giver of life,
in the midst of polluted air we groan with creation:

have mercy on us.

Giver of life
in the midst of mountains of waste we groan with creation:

have mercy on us.

Giver of life,
in the midst of a world at war we groan with creation:

have mercy on us.

Giver of life,
we who are made in the image of God have gone astray,
and creation groans with us:

have mercy on us.

CHORAL RESPONSE – “How Deep the Peace” MV #95

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose hearts are healed.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (*responsively*)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (*with those of all ages*)
Brenda Parrott & Margaret Payne-Chénard

Luke 12:13–21

***SINGING A SONG –** Songs of Gospel 21
“Brighten the Corner Where You Are”

Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do,
Do not wait to shed your light afar,
To the many duties ever near you now be true,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Refrain
Brighten the corner where you are!
Brighten the corner where you are!
Someone far from harbor you may guide across the bar;
Brighten the corner where you are!

Just above are clouded skies that you may help to clear,
Let not narrow self your way debar;
Though into one heart alone may fall your song of cheer,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Refrain

Here for all your talent you may surely find a need,
Here reflect the bright and Morning Star;
Even from your humble hand the Bread of Life may feed,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Refrain

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God,
you speak to us in so many ways:
in the song of a bird,
in the babbling of a brook,
in the voices of our friends,
in the hug from Mom or Dad,
in the songs we sing,
and in the stories of the Bible.
Speak to us now through the reading of scripture.
Help us to hear your voice and follow the way of Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Isabel MacLaggan*

Genesis 1:20-31

*Responsive Reading - Psalm 107 – Part 1 - Page 831 of VU
(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL LESSON:

Luke 12:13-21

MESSAGE: “Choices”

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “I’ll Fly Away”

Ann Marie Hocquard , Julia Henry & Karen McCrea

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Helen Knowles

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

***OFFERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Music and laughter,
hands and minds,
curiosity and compassion:
what an abundance of gifts we have!
All these gifts are symbolized in our offering.
Let us commit ourselves in service,
as we worship God with our offering. Amen.**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We thank you, God, that we have lived
in this great world and known its many joys.
For all of life,
we give you thanks.

Remembering the song of birds,
the strong, sweet scent of hay,
and cooling breezes in the secret dusk,
the flaming sunset at the close of day.
For all of life,
we give you thanks.

Remembering the lonely hills,
music at night and moonlight on the sea,
the beat of waves on the rocky shore,
and wild, white spray flung high.

For all of life,
we give you thanks.

Remembering the love of kin and the support of friends,
and all that makes life dear and beautiful;
remembering that there has come
a little sorrow, and sometime defeat,
a little heartache, and the loneliness
that comes with parting, and the word “Goodbye.”

For all of life,
we give you thanks.

Remembering the breaking dawn after dreary hours of pain,
the discovery that night’s gloom yields,
and morning light breaks through again.

For all of life,
we give you thanks.

Because of these and other blessings
poured unasked upon our heads;
because there waits an even richer
and more glorious life;
and most of all, because your only Son
once sacrificed life’s loveliness for us,
we thank you, God, that we have lived
in this great world and known its many joys.
For all of life,
we give you thanks. Amen.

Elizabeth, Countess of Craven 1750-1828

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #921 *(in unison)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

***CLOSING HYMN –** VU #563
"Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

Jesus, you have come to the Lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain

*O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.*

You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
you will find there my nets and labor.

Refrain

You need my hands, full of caring
through my labours to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving.

Refrain

You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me.

Refrain

***BLESSING:**

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

***CHORAL CLOSING – "May the God of Peace" – MV #224**

***May the God of peace and of all good,
may the God of peace and of all good
be always with you. Amen!
May God's peace be with you. Amen!***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

Church News

The summer church office hours are now in effect – open Monday to Thursday – 9 AM to 3 PM – closed on Friday. **The office will be closed August 1st for "New Brunswick Day"**

Peanut Butter Update – As of July 28th, 2022, 202 jars of Peanut Butter has been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. **Our goal is 900 jars for the year** and we currently have **436** including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

Purses Plus – UPDATE – Deliveries, on your behalf to Passage House, have been received with gratitude. Later, in the fall, they will provide a list of supplies, most needed by their clients. In the interim, we may donate gift cards, such as Tim Hortons or Dollarama. Thank you again for your generous donations.

Donald Eddy Hall Kitchen – There are several Tupperware, plastic and other assorted containers that belong to various members of the church. If you're missing a container please feel free to come to the church office during business hours and check if you have one (or more) here.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (New Revised Standard Version)

GENESIS 1:20-31

20 And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky."

21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so.

25 God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

27 So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

29 God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Psalm 107

PSALTER 831

Refrain

Elzear Dalry 1994



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Part One (1-9)

O give thanks, for God is gracious,
God's steadfast love endures for ever.
Let the redeemed of God say so,
those redeemed from trouble,
whom God gathered in from the lands,
from the east and the west,
from the north and the south. R

Some lost their way in desert wastes,
finding no place to settle,
hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.
Then they cried to you, God, in their trouble,
you rescued them from their distress.
You led them by a straight path,
till they reached a place to settle.
Let them thank you, O God, for your steadfast love,
for the wonders you do for us.
For you satisfy the thirsty,
and fill the hungry with good things. R

LUKE 12:13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

14 But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

15 And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

16 Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.

17 And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'

18 Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

