Immanuel United Church November 24, 2024 "Reign of Christ Sunday"

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES (Announcement) One:

Called to live with respect in Creation as Indigenous, Métis, Settler and Newcomer people, we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn and serve, and the water which sustains life on this land, is of God, Creator, and in the farthest reaches of memory was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land, and to their descendants.

One:

With the coming of colonizers, treaties were made, but again and again the colonizers disregarded and broke the treaties, causing grave and lasting harm to the historic caregivers of the land, to the generations that followed them, and to the land itself.

All:

Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation, we who gather here on Treaty One territory commit ourselves to finding faithful ways of honouring the treaties, the land and one another in a spirit of openhearted respect.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT AND PRAYER

We are approaching the darkest days of the year. And next week we begin the season of Advent, the anticipation of new birth and cosmic change. How does Jesus bring Hope in a difficult time? What is the Peace we seek, in our lives, in the world?

Let us Pray together:

Creator God,
In the midst of darkness show us a sign of your peace,
In a world of fear grant us a beacon of courage,
May we see your presence emerging in our midst

And may we nurture one another in Love.

AMEN

Hymn: VU# 229 God of the Sparrow

MOMENT TO PONDER

Traditional Theology has assumed that the Reign of Christ refers to a time beyond history, called the second coming, when the earth will be transformed into a paradise. Yet the descriptions of the gospel of Mark describe real life events happening in their context. Does the spirit of Jesus have a word of hope for followers of Jesus in Mark's day? And what does the leadership of Jesus mean for us today?

HYMN: MV# 126 Are You A Shepherd?

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 13:24-37 John 18:33-37 CHOIR ANTHEM: Our God is an Awesome God

REFLECTION:

HYMN: MV# 169 When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Invitation:

Let us take a moment to Give thanks for the life that inspires us, and to offer our lives to serving God and the world.

Dedication Hymn VU# 541 Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow

DEDICATION

Holy One:

You fill our lives with blessing! Fill us also with joy and compassion so we might be a blessing to others, sharing all that we are and all that we have.

AMEN

CENTERING MUSIC

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER (sung VU# 959)

HYMN: VU# 642 Be Thou My Vision

COMMISSIONING:

CHORAL AMEN

A-a-men, A-a-men, Hallelujah, A-a-men (VU # 974)

POSTLUDE