

**Kindred Spirits Worship  
May 11, 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**PRELUDE**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES**

**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**

Though it is not technically a part of the church liturgical calendar, Mother's Day is a significant day in the life of most congregations. In some congregations worshippers are greeted with bouquets of carnations, and invited to take a red one if their mother is still living, and a white one if she has died acknowledging that we are all children of mothers. In one congregation I served, Mother's Day was the time of Sunday School wind up because the next weekend was the holiday. At Immanuel, the current collaboration has ended a long term Mother's Day tradition in which the Annual Congregational Meeting was this Sunday. We have changed to a calendar year end and annual meeting in February. Whatever else is going on, this Sunday marks the soft transition into summer mode. There is still unfinished business from the spring, but our hearts and minds are looking ahead to summer plans. Let's begin in prayer as we welcome this new season.

### **Let us Pray:**

**Creator, we gather in a time of change, as we wind down some tasks and projects, and anticipate sunshine and gardens and a more restful pace.**

**We ask you to be with us, open our hearts and minds to the gifts and possibilities of this time, and help us to be aware of new insights and the awareness of new ways of being disciples.**

**AMEN**

**HYMN: VU# 236 Now Thank We All Our God**

### **MOMENT TO PONDER**

**HYMN: VU# 273 The King of Love**

### **SCRIPTURE:**

Psalm 23

John 10: 22-30

**CHOIR ANTHEM: "Look at the World"**

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN: MV#126 Are You A Shepherd?**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**Doxology VU # 539 God of All Good ( vs. 1)**

**Let us Pray:**

**Holy One, may we bring the best fruits of our lives to you, share in your mission to bless all of your children, and work to preserve and enhance all parts of your creation.**

**AMEN**

**HYMN: VU# 460 All Who Hunger**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**Invitation:**

Friends, we are ordinary people gathered to pray and sing, and worship God together. This place is open to all. God's love is available to all. When we gather around this table, we say to young or old, newcomer or regular you are precious, you belong here, you are beloved. This celebration is for you!

Greeting:

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise**

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

Creator God,

We are grateful today for blessings big and small.

We celebrate mothers and caregivers, who nurture and support us.

We delight in spring, the blooming of daffodils, the greening of trees, the smell of new mown grass, and even the tenacity of dandelions.

We anticipate the promise of summer, long evenings, picnics and parties, gardens and projects, reflection and renewal.

We treasure your presence, guiding us, challenging us, shaping our life together, and being with us in good times and hard times.

And so it is that we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

O God, we lift our prayers for the world,

Remembering all who struggle with adversity

All who hunger and thirst for justice.

We remember those who do not have enough.

Enough food, enough warmth, enough love!

We remember those whose homes are torn by war and destruction.

We pray for those who are imprisoned, physically and emotionally.

We pray for all who serve the broken hearted. Those who provide food and water, those who offer medicine and care, those who listen to stories of grief.

Today we remember.....

We pray for our community, our friends and family in need. The sick and the lonely, the grieving and the forgotten, the hungry and the alone. Today we particularly remember .....

We pray for all those we name in the silence of our hearts.....

### **Words of Institution**

Throughout his life Jesus shared meals with ordinary people. The displaced and the outcast yes, his friends and disciples, yes, and throughout the span of history, all those who have embraced his calling and endeavoured to follow his way. We remember one such meal he ate with his disciples. He took the bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and passed it to them saying, take this and eat. This bread is the body of life, broken by the world. Eat it in remembrance and in Hope.

After that, he took the cup, poured it and blessed it, and passed it to them saying, "This cup is the sign of the new covenant. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

### **Prayer for the Holy Spirit**

Pour your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, O God,  
that we might be transformed more and more into the likeness of Christ.  
Dying to our old ways, may we rise to life anew.  
Through your presence, may the garden of your Creation flourish and thrive,  
and the fruits we bear nourish others.

AMEN.

Let us unite in the words of the Jesus prayer:

**LORD'S PRAYER (sung VU# 959)**

**AMEN**

### **THE SHARING:**

May this bread nourish and sustain us in our search for light and life!

**AMEN**

May this cup bless and refresh in our living and our serving!

**AMEN**

**Come, for all is now ready.**

Prayer After Communion:

**Holy God, For food for the journey,  
for the blessing of Hope,  
for the gift of community,  
we give you thanks.**

**Grant that we may grow in love and understanding,  
And ours may be lives of faithful action,  
In Jesus name.      AMEN.**

**HYMN: VU #635    All the Way My Saviour Leads Me**

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION: MV# 214 May God's Sheltering Wings**

**Postlude**