

**Kindred Spirits Worship  
September 28, 2025  
Truth and Reconciliation Sunday  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**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**

Beloved, we gather this morning as people created in love, called by love, and sent to live for love. Today, as we enter Creation Time within the Season of Pentecost, beginning with the Sunday after Labour Day and concluding with Thanksgiving Sunday, we also celebrate the earth's renewal. The liturgical colour orange symbolizes enthusiasm, creativity, and the harvest's abundant spirit. May we open our hearts to God's Spirit, that we may become stewards of creation and agents of love, mending brokenness and fashioning beauty into the world, especially as we commemorate Truth and Reconciliation.

### **Let us Pray:**

**Loving God, as the eagle is revered by many cultures for power, wisdom, and closeness to the Creator, you lift us up with grace, honour, and courage. May we rise for your creation, tending the earth with humility and love. Guide our worship this day as we seek refuge in you during times of turmoil and commit to Truth and Reconciliation. Amen.**

### **HYMN: VU#288    Great is Thy Faithfulness**

### **MOMENT TO PONDER**

On a crisp September morning, Lila sat quietly on her chair, her eyes tracing the vibrant leaves falling gently to the ground. She had considered her neighbor, Mr. Ellis, a widower in his older years, struggling with medical bills and loneliness, often forgotten like Lazarus at the gate. The weight of her own convenient existence fell heavily upon her, her stocked pantry and comfortable house—while others close to her went with very little. She pondered how easy it was to ignore the suffering just beyond her doorstep, and a quiet resolve stirred within her to act.

That night, Lila brought Mr. Ellis a steaming supper and the offer to help with the yard. As they spoke, she saw his weary face soften, his eyes bright with gratitude. The simple act felt like planting a seed of reconciliation, bridging the gap between her abundance and his need. Inspired by the call to tend creation and serve, Lila

determined to make these moments of connection a lifestyle, tending both earth and people with newfound wisdom. Each small action, she realized had the ability to ripple out, healing divides and nurturing hope.

**HYMN: VU#660    How Firm a Foundation**

**SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15**

**Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16 (VU pp. 807–809)**

**Luke 16:19–31**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “On Eagle’s Wings”**

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN: VU#674                    Fight the Good Fight**

### **OFFERING INVITATION**

Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive, let us offer our life and gifts in service of others, let us present our offerings.

### **Doxology**

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

**Let us Pray:**

**Gracious God, bless these offerings as we work for Truth and Reconciliation, tending your creation and supporting those in need. May they bring healing and reflect your love in this world. Amen.**

### **Centering Music**

### **COMMUNITY/PEOPLE’S PRAYERS**

God of all comfort and mercy, we place before You the pain and suffering of this broken world. We remember victims of war in Ukraine, Gaza, and all places devastated by violence and injustice. We cry out for those abused in silence, the forgotten and displaced, and all who live in fear and oppression. On this Truth and

Reconciliation Sunday, we especially remember in prayer the Indigenous peoples and all those who have been affected by the history of residential schools, praying Your justice to roll down like waters and Your peace to heal the hurts of the past. Bring healing where there is pain, hope where there is despair, and strength where there is exhaustion.

We pray also today for the poor and oppressed like Lazarus at the gate, who need your help and comfort today. Wrap them in Your peace that passes understanding. May we all experience your love anew, and as we reflect on Amos's challenge to not be complacent in suffering and Luke's parable of the rich man and Lazarus challenging us to be good managers of the world and our wealth, guide us to plant seeds of reconciliation across divides of wealth and injustice, and to care for the earth as faithful caretakers. Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER    (Spoken) Eternal Spirit...**  
**AMEN**

**Hymn: VU#234    Let Us with a Gladsome Mind**

**Commissioning**

**Choral Blessing: MV#214    May God's Sheltering Wings**

**Postlude**