

**Kindred Spirits Worship
World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2026**

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
and the homeland of the Red River Metis
commit ourselves to finding faithful ways
of honoring the treaties, the land and one another
in a spirit of openhearted respect.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF CANDLE

As we light the Christ candle, we remember that Christ is present among us, guiding us with his love, grace, and peace. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world"
As this candle is lit, may the light of Christ remind us that no matter where we come from, what language we speak, or what culture we belong to, we are gathered into the one light of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From every nation and every people, we come.

All: We come to the table of Christ.

One: From different cultures, languages, and traditions, we come.

All: We come as one family of God.

One: From the many places where God's people worship today, we come together in spirit.

All: One table. One bread. One cup. One Christ.

One: Let us worship the God who welcomes us all.

All: Let us worship together as one people of God

OPENING PRAYER

Creator God, today we give you thanks for your great and beautiful world. We thank you for every nation, language, culture, and tradition. We thank you that your love is not limited by borders. We thank you that your church is found in many places and expressed in many different ways.

Today, as Christians around the world gather around the table, remind us that we belong to one another. Help us to see beyond our differences without erasing them. Help us to welcome one another. Help us to listen to one another.

Help us to care for one another. Help us also to care for the earth that you have entrusted to us.

May this table remind us that we are connected- not only to one another, but to the whole community of creation. Prepare our hearts to receive your Word, your grace, and your love. May our worship today draw us closer to Christ and closer to one another. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE (– *a french word meaning-welcome “Bienvenue”*)

OPENING HYMN MV#26 Your Love Is Amazing

MOMENT TO PONDER (*as attached*)

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Philippians 3:4b–14, Matthew 21:33–46

CHOIR ANTHEM “Come to the Table”

REFLECTION

HYMN VU#477 I Come with Joy

Offering Invitation

Around the world, people come to the table with different gifts. Some bring much. Some bring little. But every gift can become an expression of love. As we give today, may our gifts become signs of God's abundance, welcome, justice, and care for creation. Let us give our offering.

DEDICATION HYMN: MV#191 What Can I Do?

Offering Prayer

Creator God, you have given us a world filled with abundance. You have given us food, water, people, communities, gifts, and opportunities to serve. Receive these gifts that we bring today. Use them to feed those who are hungry. To welcome those who feel excluded. To strengthen your church. To care for your creation. And

to bring hope where there is need. May what we give become part of your work in the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN VU#480 Let Us Break Bread Together

INVITATION

Friends, this is the table of Christ's grace, and all are welcome. No matter who you are, where you come from, or what you carry today, you are invited to come and receive God's love. Here we are gathered as one community different in our journeys, yet united in grace. At this table we are reminded to live with kindness, to seek understanding, and to work for peace with one another.

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, O God, for your gift of love that brings us together. At this table, we are reminded of your wide welcome and your steadfast love for all people. You meet us with grace and invite us into deeper communion with you and with one another. With grateful hearts, we join in praising you, saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

One: Creator God, God of love, justice, mercy, and compassion, we come before you as one people, gathered by your Spirit and united at the table of Christ. Today, Christians around the world gather to share in the bread and cup, remembering your love and giving thanks for the gift of new life. As we come from different

nations, cultures, languages, and traditions, remind us that we belong to one another. May your table teach us to live in peace, welcome one another with love, and work together for justice.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: Creator God, as we remember the 1986 Apology to Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge the pain caused by the church's involvement in colonialism, the suppression of Indigenous cultures, and the harm done to Indigenous families and communities. As we hear these words again, help us not to treat the apology as merely a memory from the past. Give us the humility to listen to Indigenous voices, the courage to acknowledge the truth, and the commitment to move from words to action. May our churches become places where truth is spoken, dignity is restored, and reconciliation is lived.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: God of life and compassion, today we remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit people. We remember those whose lives have been taken, those who remain missing, and the families and communities who continue to carry the pain of their absence. Surround them with your love and comfort. We pray for those who search, those who advocate, and those who work to end the violence. Open our eyes to the injustices that allow this suffering to continue. Strengthen our commitment to protect life, uphold the dignity of every person, and build communities where Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people can live safely and freely.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: God of peace, we pray for all who suffer because of war, violence, discrimination, poverty, illness, loneliness, and exclusion. We remember people displaced from their homes, families separated by conflict, and communities living with fear and uncertainty. Where there is pain, bring healing; where there is hatred, inspire compassion; where there is injustice, raise up those who will speak and act for what is right. Guide the leaders of nations and communities to seek peace, protect the vulnerable, and serve the common good.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: God of wisdom, we pray for leaders in our governments, churches, schools, and communities. Give them humility to listen, courage to speak the truth, and wisdom to make decisions that protect the dignity and well-being of all people. We pray especially for Indigenous leaders, Elders, knowledge keepers, survivors, and community advocates. Sustain them in their work, honor their wisdom, and help us to listen without defensiveness and learn without turning away from difficult truths.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: God of reconciliation, we pray for our congregations, Immanuel United Church and John Black Memorial United Church, and for all communities seeking to live out the love of Christ. Help us to be communities that welcome strangers, listen to those whose voices have been ignored, care for those who are hurting, and stand alongside those who experience injustice. Where relationships have been broken, guide us towards healing. Where there is misunderstanding, teach us to listen. Where we have remained silent in the face of suffering, give us the courage to act.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: Creator God, receive all our prayers, those spoken aloud and those held silently in our hearts. Let the Spirit who gathers us at one table lead us into deeper truth, genuine reconciliation, and new life. May we remember with honesty, love with generosity, and serve with faithfulness, so that our lives may bear witness to the compassion of Christ in the world.

All: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he gave himself for us, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: **“Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

In the same way, he took the cup, gave thanks, and said:

“This cup is the new covenant. Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, guide us into lives marked by kindness and understanding. Help us to listen with patience, to speak with care, and to treat one another with respect.

Where there is misunderstanding, bring understanding. Where there is distance, bring connection. Where there is conflict, bring peace. Shape us into people who reflect your love. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung VU#959)

THE SHARING

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, for all is now ready.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, we thank you for meeting us in this time of worship and feeding us with your love. Send us into the world with renewed hearts, ready to live with kindness, patience, and care for one another. May our lives reflect your peace in all that we do In Jesus’ name we. Amen.

HYMN MV#143 We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

BENEDICTION

Go now in the love of Christ. Go with hearts open to people who are different from us. Go ready to welcome the stranger. Go ready to share what we have received. And wherever you go, remember: There is one table. There is one body. There is one Christ. And there is room for all.

May the blessing of God, the love of Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you, now and always. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION MV#145 Draw the Circle Wide

POSTLUDE