



# EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

June 2, 2019

The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
United Church of Canada Pride Sunday

A warm welcome to all who have joined us for worship  
today.

Please note this is a scent free environment.  
(\*please rise in body or spirit)

*Prelude: "La Carita" - Rossini*

Welcome, Announcements & Candles - A. J. McNaught

*\*Gathering Hymn: MV #145 "Draw the Circle Wide"*

Centering Time for Worship

## **Gathering to Celebrate**

*\*Forming the Rainbow:*

Let us celebrate who each of us is

**Regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity**

**All are made in the image and likeness of the Divine**

All of us may not be part of the rainbow community

**But we are not apart from it either**

**Let us celebrate holy love**

*\*Opening Prayer:*

**Holy One, who breathes life into each one of us,**

**and all of Creation, we give thanks**

**for the wonderful diversity of your Creation.**

**Help us to hold one another closely, in love, compassion, and  
celebration, that we may give thanks that we are all your children.**

**In the name of Jesus, we make this prayer. Amen**

*Candles of Joy and Concern*

*Worship with the Young at Heart:* - Robert Moreton

*An Affirmation of Sexual Diversity*

**We affirm that each of us is made in the image  
and likeness of the Divine.**

**We affirm that we are beautiful souls wrapped in beautiful bodies.**

**We affirm that in the mystery of God's love  
we are called to mutuality and compassion.**

**We acknowledge the soul within us, striving to reach beyond the  
temporary into the eternal.**

**We acknowledge the presence of the Spirit moving among us,  
embracing each one of us into the passion of life.**

**We acknowledge the spark of the Divine inside those around us,  
offering us light and love.**

**We celebrate the mystery of sexuality,**

**We celebrate the power of love.**

**We celebrate the diversity within God's creation.**

**We affirm the many shapes and expressions of the spiritual within,  
about and around us. We give thanks to the Holy.**

*\*Hymn: "We are a Rainbow" - David Kai; Tune: Slocan (see below)*

**We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill,**

**We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light,**

**We will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel anymore,**

**We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.**

**Chorus: We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace,**

**For the flood of tears will finally cease to be,**

**Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,**

**Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.**

**We're a coat of many colours, sewn from many different threads,**

**Covering all in warmth, in welcome and in grace,**

**God said, "Let there be light", created every varied shade,**

**In the rainbow each of us can find a place. Chorus:**

**We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,  
We are peace in a world that's torn apart,  
We are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,**

**We are love that blooms and grows in every heart. Chorus:**

**When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone,  
For our God will be with us on the way,**

**Hand in hand, side by side,  
we won't be frightened any more,**

**As the mourning night of tears breaks into day. Chorus:**

It is my custom to name my hymn tunes after camps and ghost towns where Canadians of Japanese descent were interned during the Second World War. In this way I hope to ensure that these places will not be forgotten.

### **Celebrating Diversity**

*Preparation for Proclamation: MV #97 "Listen, God is Calling"*

*Scriptures: Reader: Cliff McDonald*

1. Genesis 9:12–15
2. Psalm 86 (VU 803)
3. Galatians 3:26–29
4. Acts 8:26–40

*Anthem: "Our Journey of Faith" - John Parker & Mark Hayes*

*Reflection*

*\*Hymn: MV #161 "I Have Called You by Your Name" vs 4*

### **Living Diversity**

*Offering: "Make me a Channel of Your Peace"*

*\*Hymn: VU #544 "In Gratitude & Humble Trust"*

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

**Holy One, in the diversity of these gifts  
is reflected the wondrous diversity of Creation.  
As all of us are made in your image and likeness,**

**we offer these gifts that all may be affirmed in their place  
in your Creation. In the name of Jesus, who affirmed the  
marginalized, we make this prayer. Amen**

*Litany of Praise and Thanksgiving:*

Phyllis Elvidge-Bell & Frankie Schilke

Your liberating voice has called us here

**And we are counted among your holy people.**

You have provided sanctuary for us

**And we worship and pray in your expanding love.**

You cradle us in the palm of your open hands

**And we are raised up by you.**

Your Spirit quenches the desert of our souls

**And produces an abundance of gifts for us to share.**

You show us your light in your sun

and your reflection in your moon

**And we are called to bring your light into the depths of fear.**

You bless us with all of the colours

**And we believe in your rainbow covenant with us.**

Your gift of community is celebrated in our midst

**And we freely dance in the fire of your Spirit.**

You bless us with the power of your peace

**And we fall into your love.**

You call us all your people

**And we are your home.**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

The Invitation

*\*Communion Hymn: VU #467 "One Bread, One Body"*

*\*The Peace*

*Eucharistic Prayer: see insert*

Fraction and Distribution

*\*Hymn: MV 138, "My Love Colours Outside the Lines"*

*\*Sending Forth: An Affirmation of Sexuality*

Jesus, like us, was a child of the Divine

**Fully human, fully incarnate**

He was fashioned by your hand in flesh

**And we believe that our sexuality is part of your plan for us**

We are all sexual beings

**Proving that our sexuality comes**

**from a deep and fuller understanding**

**of who we are as your children**

Let us celebrate who all of us are

**For we are all children of the Divine!**

*\*Concluding Rite:*

**Sing a new world into being**

**where the homeless find a home;**

**where no children ever hunger,**

**but are filled with God's shalom;**

**where all people work for justice,**

**where all hate and vengeance cease.**

**Sing a new world into being,**

**live the promise you believe.**

- Mary Louise Bringle and John Wyeth; tune: NETTLETON

*Postlude: "March" - Handel*

### **In Appreciation**

*Minister:* All the Congregation and Rev. Don Uhryniw *Music:* Arlene Gray and the Choir

*AV:* Brian James/Bill Buwalda *Sunday School:* Sue Masters *Refreshments:* UCW

*Elevator:* Kathy Gillis *Ushers & Greeters:* Kathy Gillis, Ina Stenner & Leona Clark

*Communion Servers:* A.J. McNaught, Bill Gilbert, Stan VanNeste & Christine Lewis

*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

*We acknowledge that we live on the traditional territory*

*of the Mississauga People of the Anishnaabe Nation*