



EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

September 15, 2019 - Pride Sunday

The Second Sunday in Creation Time

14th in the Season of Pentecost

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: "Adoration" - arr Robert J. Hughes

Welcome, Announcements & Lighting of the Candles

**Gathering Hymn: MV 14 "Where Two or Three are Gathered"*

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

**Centering Time for Worship*

Being Proud

**Invitation to Community*

We are in a safe place,

A place where community gathers.

We are here to celebrate a rich diversity,

A diversity that only begins to speak the mind of God.

Come and revel in the Spirit,

The Spirit that blesses each one of us!

**Gathering Prayer*

Author of love and life,

we gather in the rich hues and colours

that you have gifted all of us with.

Bless us into your compassion, and into your passion,

that as we gather we will be embraced by your universal Spirit.

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

**Hymn: MV 1 "Let Us Build a House"*

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;

here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;

here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;

as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;

let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;

let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Candles of Joy and Concern

Worship with the Young at Heart

Living the Rainbow

Preparation for Proclamation:

MV 135 "Called by Earth and Sky" - chorus only

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high. This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, called by earth and sky.

Scriptures: Reader: Jim Glynn
Jeremiah 18.1-11 Psalm 139 VU 861

God, You have searched me, You know me through and through
Philemon 1-21 Luke 14.25-33

Special Music: "We are a Rainbow" - David Kai
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.

Reflection

A Pride Affirmation

I believe that we are more than children of the Holy.
I believe that we are more than clay.
I believe that we are more than flesh:
Flesh that is warm and sweaty, soft and hard.
In us is embodied the soul of the Divine,
Calling us to love, embrace, and share the kiss of peace:
Statements of love.

Jesus was flesh but more than flesh:
He was the universal word incarnate,
Animated by the Holy and responding
to the needs around him.

We are animated by the Holy,
We are animated by desire and attraction,
We are animated by Holy love.

When we touch it is more than desire:
It is the longing for affirming the other,
Affirming one another,
Affirming ourselves.

We are more than Pride:
We are called to be our authentic selves,

**Flesh that is warm and sweaty, soft and hard,
For we are animated by Holy desire.**

**Hymn: VU 624 "Give to Us Laughter"*

- 1 Give to us laughter, O Source of our life.
Laughter can banish so much of our strife.
Laughter and love give us wholeness and health.
Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth.**
- 2 Give to us laughter as sign of deep joy;
let us in laughing find Christian employ,
joining with stars and with bright northern lights,
laughing and praising and sharing delights.**
- 3 Why do we worry that we will lose face?
Why act like king for the whole human race?
Often in family, and often with friend,
laughing at pride causes anguish to end.**
- 4 Even in sorrow and hours of grief,
laughter with tears brings most healing relief.
God, give us laughter, and God, give us peace,
joys of your presence among us increase.**

A Pride Litany: Adam Wicklum & Daniel Worobec (see insert)

Being the Rainbow

Minute for Mission: Phyllis Elvidge-Bell

Offering: "O Holy God" - Friedrich von Flotow - arr. E. J. Lorenz

**Hymn of Presentation: VU 537 "Your Work, O God"*

- 1 Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.**
- 2 Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.**

**Prayer of Dedication:*

We offer these gifts for you have searched our hearts, formed us by your hands, and call us to be the proud people you have made. Amen

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

**Communion Hymn: VU 460 "All Who Hunger"*

**1 All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**2 All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**3 All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

Communion Prayer: (see insert)

Fraction and Distribution

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

**1 . My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find; a
nd takes me into places where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**2. My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
and takes me into places where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**Refrain: We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.**

**And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die,
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.**

**3 & 4. My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines. R**

Sending Forth

Unbind those things fettered by injustice,

We will embrace that which loves.

Know that all of us are one in the Creator,

Birthing from the womb of the universe.

Make justice and share love,

For we are children of the Divine!

Concluding Rite: "Go Now in Peace" - Nancy Price & Don Besig

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen.

Used with permission

Postlude: "Living for Jesus"

In Appreciation

Minister: All the Congregation and Rev. Don Uhryniw

Music: Arlene Gray and the Choir; *Sound:* Ted Shaw

Ushers & Greeters: Kathy Gillis, Lynda Ferguson, Barb Cameron, & Shirley Walton;

Elevator: Bill Atkinson; *Refreshment Goodies:* Deb Glynn

Communion Servers: Ken Gray, Linda Morrison, Bev Boomer, & Jacquie Robinson

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

A Pride Litany

Colour 1: The colour RED represents SEXUALITY.

Living and liberating God,
You have created all people in your own image.
You have coaxed us into our uniqueness
and you delight in who we are.

**ALL: Give us hearts that are open to you and to each other,
that we may live for you,
honourably overcome our aloneness,
and enjoy your gifts of sexuality and creativity.**

Colour 2: The colour ORANGE represents GIFTS of HEALING.

Healing and generous Lord,
You have blessed us with salvation, wholeness, and health.
You have given us Jesus, who healed the sick
and included the outcasts.
You have given us your Spirit,
who calls us to the same ministry,
firing our hearts with compassion and graciousness.

**ALL: Give us the hospitality to offer true healing:
let all we have hurt receive the gift
of healing tears and laughter;
let all we have hurt receive everlasting knowledge
of your saving love**

Colour 3: The colour YELLOW represents the SUN, LIGHT, and JOY.

God of resurrection and fullness of joy,
You have called us to be your people,
making us a community of priests.
You dance over us with singing; you have called us, not servants, but
your friends.
You have promised us that all will be well,
and we trust that will be well.

**ALL: We open ourselves, today, to fresh words from the Word:
for new notes to sing,
for new thoughts to think,
and for new and ancient ways to live,
because of your promise to make all things new.**

Colour 4: The colour GREEN represents ACTIVISM and RESPONSIBILITY.

Radical One, Just Judge,
You have blessed us with various skills and abilities.
You have told us what is good:
to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.

**ALL: You send us out into the world
as citizens of your commonwealth,
that your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.
We ask for fresh vision and a new agenda.
so that we may have power to work for what is right,
and to be ministers of reconciliation.**

Colour 5: The colour BLUE represents the ARTS and ARTISTIC EXPRESSION:

Rainbow God of the covenant,
You create all things good and call them to yourself,
You make us fearfully and wonderfully.
You allow us to live with respect in Creation and to serve it well,
which brings you glory and delight.

**ALL: Send your creative Spirit on your people in this place,
that we may embrace the arts in the church,
and the beauty of all humanity,
your myriad masterpieces in Christ.**

Colour 6: The colour PURPLE represents COMMUNITY.

Holy One: You are the One Community before all time,
the dance that spills over in the gift of Creation.
You sweep us up into your life by the incarnation,

Cross, and resurrection of Jesus,
so that we may be one as you are one.

You give all of those united in Christ Jesus the one
Spirit to drink, making one body of us all.

**ALL: Give us the one mind and one heart and one spirit
that you promise us in Christ,
the grace to hold each other across our disagreements,
and the willingness to sing the saving love of Jesus
to a beautiful and hurting world.**

**We commit to being the RAINBOW People of God.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

—Rob Walker, Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough, ON

Eucharistic Prayer for Gay Pride Week

Around this table Jesus makes a place for everybody

Straight and gay, clergy, and lay, young and young at heart

For the circle of our Creator is wider than the universe

For those outstretched arms embrace all of creation

They embrace you

And they embrace me.

For that circle is the rainbow given by the Holy One

The rainbow of life refracted through the eyes of the Divine

Giving colours and combinations, sizes and shapes

To the beauty that is creation.

For this circle is large enough for everyone

And small enough to make us welcome

For this circle holds all of us together

For this circle has no beginning nor end.

For it is fashioned by the hands of God

As each one of us has been turned on the great potter's wheel

Who has taken our souls and woven them together

into the seamless garment that is the beauty of humanity.

For the fire of love burns deep in our bodies

**For the fire of love burns deep in our souls
Searing us, warming us, changing us,
Blessing our bodiliness, our forms, our limbs, our lives
Calling us together as children of the Divine,
Made in the image and likeness of God.**

Who gave us the gift of Jesus,

**His flesh of God's flesh,
Our blood of his blood**

Who called us together to love and to care for one another.

He cared that we loved, not who we loved.

He called us together to be his friends,

Celebrating the presence of God, making the circle ever wide,

And he blessed all of us and said "this is my body"

Take my body

"this is my blood"

be part of my life

And so we celebrate together the rich fabric of creation,

Holding the circle against those who would break it,

Holding fast to compassion for one another

Because She calls us

To love unconditionally,

Celebrate joyfully,

Serve faithfully,

So that all people may take their place

around the table of Jesus

Rev. Don Uhryniw