



Strathmore United Church

July 25, 2021

Welcome and announcements:

Call to Worship:

L: We gather today, proclaiming God's love and seeking
God's blessing.

**P: God loves us with an immeasurable love. God is with us always, even
when we are unaware, even when we feel lost or alone.**

L: In gratitude we come, proclaiming our thanksgiving and
seeking to live out our love.

**P: In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not
alone. Thanks be to God.**

L: Thanks be to God. Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer:

♪♪ Hymn: "We Praise You, O God" *VU #218


**1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.**

Children's Time:

Scripture Lesson: John 21:15–19

Sermon:

 **Hymn:** Will You Come and Follow *VU#567

- 1 **Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?**

- 2 **Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer:

Creating God, we thank you for the gift that is life: for the changing seasons, for the tiny seeds that in your Holy Mystery become life-sustaining food, cleansed air, beauty to behold, and life itself.

We thank you for the gift of life.

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of family, friends, and community—those who know us so well that they know when to hold our hand and when to let go. We thank you for those people who journey with us in our times of joy and especially in our times of sorrow.

We thank you for the gift of love.

Compassionate God, we thank you for holding us in troubling times. We pray for those who are journeying through illness, awaiting medical diagnosis, those with life-threatening and

degenerative diseases. We know that we do not journey alone but that you are always with us.

We thank you for the gift of compassion.

Challenging God, we thank you for writing your law upon our hearts so that we are called to seek justice and to love kindness. Thank you for moving us to action and challenging us to be your hands and feet in a world so desperately in need of healing.

We thank you for the gift of challenge.

God of all time and place, we thank you for the gifts of life, love, compassion, and challenge. Help us to know that each small individual action together with another's can make a difference to the world and make a world of difference. May your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

We thank you for the gift of our call to discipleship.

Let us join our hearts, minds, and voices together as we pray the prayer our Saviour taught...4

Minute For Mission:

The Offering:

♪♪ Offertory Hymn: Grant Us, God, the Grace of Giving *VU#540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

Prayer of Dedication:

♪♪ Hymn: Come Let Us Sing *VU #222

**1 Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,
we have stood silently too long;
surely the Lord deserves our praise,
so joyfully thank God for our days.**

2 O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;
God's living waters will never fail.
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.

Commissioning and Benediction:

L: Our worship is over, but now our service begins. We are called to go and live God's love in the world.

P: We go in faith and in hope to feed Christ's sheep and care for Christ's lambs.

L: Go in peace, and may the love of God embrace us, the compassion of Christ challenge us, and the Holy Spirit guide us.

P: Amen.

VU #540 Grant Us God, the Grace of Giving: Public Domain

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