



Strathmore United Church

Giving with Intention and Love

August 15, 2021

Welcome and announcements:

Candle Lighting:

L: As we gather to worship, we light this candle to remember the light and love that Jesus shared with so many. He did not keep this light to himself. After Jesus died, his friends continued to share the light. For generations upon generations the light has been shared, and love continues; Jesus is still with us.

P: Today, in love, we welcome the light, the light of the world.

Call to Worship:

L: What have you brought to give today?

P: We have brought our hopes and our fears.

O: what have you brought to give today?

P: We have brought our joys and our sorrows.

O: What have you brought to give today?

P: We have brought our prayer and our voices.

O: What have you brought to give today?

P: We have brought our talents and our money.

O: Let us give all of ourselves in this time of worship.

Let us, with gratitude and joy, worship God!

♪♪ Hymn: God of the Bible *MV #28

**God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.**

Refrain:

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful,
you do not change. Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.**

**God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
suffering with us, taking our part,
still you empower us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.**

Opening Prayer:

L: Giver of life, you have sown love and hope in your world since creation. You have planted joy and kindness in our hearts and watered it with your patience.

P: You shine your peace upon us that even as we experience life's challenges, your gentle presence reassures us that you are in control. Let your Spirit of generosity fill our lives and stir our desire to share with others what you have so graciously given to us. Amen.

All Ages Theme Conversation:

♪♪ Hymn: *Lead Me, God* *VU #662

**Lead me, God,
lead me in your righteousness;
make your way plain before my face.
For it is you, and you, God only,
who makes me to dwell in safety.**

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Sermon:

♪♪ Hymn: *Holy Spirit, Hear Us* *VU #377

**Holy Spirit, hear us,
help us while we sing;
breathe into the music
of the praise we bring.**

Prayers of the People:

L: Loving God, giver of all creation, we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving in our hearts. We give you thanks for all you do to

care for us. Give us grace to care for others and to love others as Christ loves us. We are grateful that your love is steadfast and enduring, offered to all through Jesus Christ. We ask your help for all who suffer and strength for those who bring your help to them.

P: Make us faithful stewards of your goodness.

Refrain: **VU #377** Holy Spirit Hear Us (Verse 2)

**2 Holy Spirit, shine now
on the book we read;
light its holy pages
with the truth we need.**

L: Compassionate Jesus, healer of all creation, we pray for the sick and those who sit with grief and all those who are in need of your healing touch. We pray for the ministry of healing and caring that comes from the church and other organizations. We pray for the of leaders of nations, for honesty, integrity, justice, and compassion in national, provincial and international politics, and for financial resources to be distributed equitably. We live in a world where people struggle to meet their basic need while others are denied basic human rights. War and corruption stifle the economic and social advancement of many.

P: Make us faithful stewards of your goodness.

Refrain: **VU #377** Holy Spirit Hear Us (Verse 3)

**3 Holy Spirit, prompt us
when we bow to pray;
speak within and teach us
what we ought to say.**

L: Holy Spirit, sanctifier of all creation, help us to be generous in meeting the needs of others through the gifts of our time, kind words and a listening ear. Bless those whose lives are toughed through our gifts to Mission and Service. We pray for those known to us who are in need of your care for their minds, body, or spirit at this time. Especially we pray for.....

P: Make us faithful stewards of your goodness as we join our voices together to pray the prayer our Saviour taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

The Offering:

♪♪ Offering Song: We Give Thee but Thine Own *VU#543

**1 We give thee but thine own,
what e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O God, from thee.**

Prayer of Dedication:

♪♪ Hymn: Come Touch Our Hearts v. 1-4 *MV #12


**Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious,
come touch and bless our hearts.**

**Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.**

**Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom,
come touch and bless our minds.**

**Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;
that we may rise to follow and to serve,
steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.**

Sending Forth and Blessing:

** Postlude: Go Now in Peace *VU #964
 Go now in peace, go now in peace.
 May the love of God surround you
 everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

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