

Steveston United Church
Sunday September 17, 2023 10:00 am

Creation Time 2

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



We Gather as God's People

[Church Life](#) [Reminders](#) [Celebrations](#) and [Prayer Requests](#)

Lighting the Christ Candle and the Candle for Peace

All: "Let the Light of Christ fill this space. Amen"

We Welcome One Another in the Name of the Risen Christ

(please stand if comfortable)

One: In a world where so many have little,
and others have more than enough,

All: God's gift of love is shared by all.

One: In a time of uncertainty and doubt,

All: God's presence renews our faith.

One: When we are unsure of what we are called to be,

All: the Spirit fills us with hope revealed
through the Good News.

Come, let us worship as the people of God!

We confess an unwillingness to place everything
in your hands and to live in trust and faithfulness.

Forgive us and call us once again.

Hear our prayers..

..silent prayer.... Amen."

(God's Assurance of forgiveness and grace.)

One: "We accept the new life we are offered here.
We are a forgiven people. Thanks be to God."

Hymn For the Fruit of All Creation VU 227

Reflection

Closing Hymn Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU 651

We Are Sent Out

Commissioning

All: "We go out into the world in courage and peace,
holding lightly to the things of this world,
and holding tightly to God's love."

Congregational Response *(Cliff Barrows)*

All: "May God's blessing surround you each day,
as you trust God and walk in his way.
May God's presence within
guard and keep you from sin;
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love;
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love."

Three-fold Amen

Postlude

Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: Rejoice and be glad! God has given us new life.

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Opening Hymn Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You VU 232

Opening Prayer *(please be seated)*

One: Let us pray,

All: "God, as we gather this morning, open our hearts to truly listen for you. Break through the ordinary and the boredom where we seem to find ourselves. Fill us with your steadfast love, and we will rejoice. This we pray in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen."

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer refrain VU 391
(please remain seated)

All: "God, reveal your presence: as we now adore you and with awe appear before you. Here in this your temple: all within keep silence, gather now with deepest reverence. You alone God we own, you, our God and Saviour: praise your name for ever."

Offering Invitation

One: "We are acceptable to God;

All of our gifts are acceptable to God.

Our offering will now be received."

Offering Refrain *(please stand if comfortable)* VU 541

All: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit; One. Amen."

Offering Prayer of Dedication

All: "Loving God, you have blessed our lives in so many ways.

You have been our strength every step of every day.

Now we offer you our lives, our all.

Use these gifts to bring love and understanding to the world. Amen."

Anthem

We Hear God's Word

Christian Scripture Matthew 18:21:35 (pew bible p 800)

One: These are the stories of our faith

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Response

VU 37

All: "Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!"

Invitation to Confession

One: "Jesus also said, 'My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

We bring to God the weight of our sins;

confident and trusting in the spirit of grace."

Our Prayer;

All: "We confess, O God, that in answering your call, we often come up with more excuses than we do actions. We confess that we often put off answering your call until a "better time."

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