

Sunday, December 3rd Stay for a delicious Soup & Sandwich Lunch hosted by the UCW. Free Will Offering will benefit the General Fund.

The Annual UCW Candlelight Communion Service and Potluck Lunch Tuesday, December 5th at 12:30 p.m.

This is a really nice time of fellowship to which all ladies and their friends and family are invited. Come and visit and sing some Christmas carols. We will present Holly Haskell from Hiatus House our gathered blankets and cheque towards robes & slippers.

EMERGENCY APPEAL: From the United Church Website: "Mission and Service partners are currently responding to those who are impacted by the conflict in West Bank and East Jerusalem. Currently, there is an urgent need for food, as well as non-food items such as medicines, psychosocial support, and shelter." We can do our part to bring a glimmer of hope and one way is to **donate** to this emergency appeal. We can donate online at: Donate to Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East Relief | The United Church of Canada (united-church.ca), or write a cheque to Tecumseh United Church and mark it for Middle East Emergency Appeal or **e-transfer to Tecumseh United Church at** donations@tecumsehunited.com and indicate that the donation is for the Emergency Appeal.

WYC and DM donation request lists are in the entry. Please help by donating to those in need.

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Music Director: Henry Boon
Custodian: Larry White
Sunday School: Lauren Snyder-Gault
Media Coordinator: Elisa Gorshkova

Office hours ~ Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am - 2pm

Donations can be made by simple e-transfer to
donations@tecumsehunited.com



Tecumseh United Church
~ *An Affirming Congregation* ~
Sunday, November 19th, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. .
We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

We Gather in God's Love

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle (Based on work by Roger Courtney)

As we light this candle as a symbol of God's light in this world, let our community not be a circle with people inside the circle who feel part of the club and those outside the circle who feel excluded.

Rather let our community be a spiral, with Jesus at its heart, which, like Jesus, constantly reaches out to ensure that everyone feels included. (*The Christ Candle is lit*)

And so, God, as the flame spreads and lights the candle, may our hearts spread the warmth of Your love to our neighbours. Amen.

Call to Gather (by Jim Burklo)

We are here to praise and enjoy God with body and soul, mind, and heart, with song and word, with hands and feet.

We are here to give, because of the abundance God has given us, to share with each other, and to receive, because God has created us to depend on each other.

We are here to celebrate the differences that otherwise might divide us: differences of age, of body, of culture, of opinion, of ability, of gender, of religious conviction.

We are here to put things in perspective: to celebrate what matters, to laugh about things we take too seriously, to cry about things that truly touch our hearts.

So may it be this morning. **Amen!**

***Hymn # 688 "O Day of God, Draw Nigh"**

Centering Reflection (based on work by Jim Burklo)

Source and Center, Goal and Way

Friend and Lover, hear us pray and worship.

Keep our minds and bodies still,

Let your Holy Spirit fill the sacred, silent, empty place that we experience here this morning, and where we meet you face to face, alone and yet together in this community of faith. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray, Amen.

***Hymn MV # 158 "Dream a Dream"**

Faith Friends Time / Lord's Prayer

Hymn # 568 "Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day" verse 1

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture Readings: Psalm 90 Verses 1-12

Your Lantern hangs before our tent.

Its circle of light illuminates this brief stopping place.

We do not know where we are going;

we barely know where we have been.

We keep our hats handy, always ready to move on.

Perhaps the next campsite will be like this one;

perhaps it will not. Only you have an overview of our journey.

We are here such a short time.

We arrive, we unpack, we explore our environment,
and then we are gone again.

May the good earth be not harmed by our passage.

May we be no more dangerous to our planet than a dream
that flits across the mind and leaves no mark.

**Like a firefly, bright and brief, we flicker in the darkness,
and then vanish into your warm and holy night.**

Like clouds driven before a storm wind, our days scud by;
without a sigh, the last light of the sun winks out in the west.

You drive the wind, you scroll the sun;
you govern the going of our lives.

What does it matter how long we live?

Sometimes it seems too long;

sometimes it seems as short as a flutter of a butterfly's wings.

It's not how long we live that matters. But how well.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

From "Everyday Psalms" by James Taylor, published by Wood Lakes Books © Used by permission.

Matthew 25: 14 - 30

***Hymn MV # 176 "Three Things I Promise"**

Meditation: "Are You Talking to Me?"

We Respond to God's Word

Choir Anthem

Offering Prayer

God of all peoples and God of all places, we give our offerings that they may be used to extend your kin-dom here on earth. With them, we offer our varied ministries, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen.

Prayers of the people / Prayer Book is read.

We Go to Love and Serve God

***Hymn # 248 "When Long before Time"**

Commissioning

We asked for strength

and God gave us difficulties to make us strong.

We asked for wisdom

and God gave us problems to learn to solve.

We asked for prosperity

and God gave us brains and brawn to work.

We asked for courage

and God gave us dangers to overcome.

We asked for love and God gave us people to help.

We asked for favors and God gave us opportunities.

We received nothing we wanted and everything we needed.

**Let us go from this place using everything God gave us
in God's name. Amen.**

Benediction

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Thanks to John Cafe for reading and to
for hosting Coffee Hour this morning.

Happy Birthday this coming week to Linda Henderson,
Ann Buchanan and Lidia Bunt.

Happy Anniversary this week to Allan & Dana Howe.

Our Coffee Hour Coffee today will benefit the Alzheimer's Society. Free Will Offering donations will be matched by the UCW. Please be generous!

Church Advent Decorating- next Sunday, November 26th after the service. Please stay and help if you're able!