



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

<http://www.woden-valley.uca.org.au/>

Jesus practised radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

5 October 2025

(17th Sunday after Pentecost)



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

We Gather as people of God

The Gong is sounded three times

Prelude Music

Acknowledgement of first peoples

Lighting of the candle

Call to worship

Fountain of life...

Pulse of life...Breath of life...

Earth is filled with the presentness of God.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

All the elements are filled with the presentness of God.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with the presentness of God.

Together this day, let us sense
the face of God in all creativity.

Song Morning has broken like the first morning TiS 156

People stand as they are able, to sing

Welcome and introduction

A Prayer of Living Attentively

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

No matter how far we wander,

we can never wander from the bounds of God's grace.

We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing the Peace

May the peace of God be always with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace of God with your neighbours

Song: All the wonder that surrounds us (John Bell)

All the wonder that surrounds us springs from God's care: all that marvels or confounds us, raw, rich or rare; touch and texture, sights and voices, nature's countless forms and choices: all for which the heart rejoices springs from God's care.	2. Every creature, every human lives by God's grace: every family, man and woman, culture and race; those whom fortune seems to favour, those exploited for their labour, those who need to know a neighbour live by God's grace.
3. How can we revere God's goodness meant for all time? How ensure that each uniqueness keeps in its prime? How shall we revere with pleasure all God gives for life and leisure, how preserve that earthly treasure meant for all time?	4. God has willed that peace and justice walk hand in hand. These, with love, shall build foundations on which we'll stand: love for lover, friend and stranger, love defying death and danger, love as first born in a manger - heaven close at hand.

We Reflect on the Word for our time

Readings from our religious tradition

- **Isaiah 32: 14-18**

- Psalm 137, re-imagined in TiS 667, How shall I sing to God

- Luke 17:1-10

Response to the scriptures

For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God in Creation, for the word of God among us,
and for the word of God in us . .

Thanks be to God.

Contemporary Word

Music for Reflection

We Respond to the Word

Affirmation God is with us

Please stand as you are able.

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating;
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh;
to reconcile and to make new;
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to live with respect in Creation,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. *(United Church of Canada)*

VIDEO: We are not alone.

Offerings

We come with offerings –

**of our time, our money, our strength, our food donations,
our pleasure in one another's company.**

**Please make these gifts Your instrument
to bring harmony to others
and add to the concert of a greater good. Amen** *(Jean Shannon/adapted)*

Prayers of the People

As we pray, O God,
we ask you to keep us from using prayer
as an escape;
**keep us from the temptation of uttering a few words,
in the hope that you will swoop in and do the rest
with no further requirement from us.**

May our prayers be a constant, unending rhythm
that drives not just our words,
but our thoughts, our attitudes and our actions;
**may we never stop seeking, asking, knocking,
pleading for justice,
wrestling with your coming reign.**

As we pray for our world,
may we also live lightly on the earth,
**taking only what we need,
and giving all we can;**

As we pray for our nation,
may we also live as good neighbours,
**protecting the weak and vulnerable,
and celebrating goodness and grace
wherever we may find it.**

As we pray for our community,
may we also live with open arms and hearts,
**embracing both familiar companions
and unknown strangers,
and welcoming all as you do.**

As we pray for our friends and families,
may we also live as those who lay down their lives,
**selflessly serving those in our care,
and always choosing the sacrificial way of love.**

**And so may our prayers be the catalyst,
that changes us into little incarnations –
ordinary people
who manifest Christ. Amen.** *(John van de Laar)*

**Abba Prayer:
God, lover of us all, most holy one.
Help us to respond to you.**

To create what you want for us here on earth.

Give us today enough for our needs.
Forgive our weak and deliberate offences,
just as we must forgive others
when they hurt us.

Help us to resist evil and to do what is good.

For we are yours, endowed with your power
to make our world whole. Amen. *(Lana Winkley)*

We Go out into the World

Blessing Words

Blessing Song: For you, deep stillness of the silent inland

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland
For you, deep blue of the desert skies
For you, flame red of the rocks and stones
For you, sweet water from hidden springs.

From the edges seek the heartlands
and when you're burnt by the journey
may the cool winds of the hovering
Spirit soothe and replenish you.

In the name of Christ, In the name of Christ.

The Community Candle is extinguished

Postlude (a time for quiet reflection – please remain seated)

'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church

You are invited to share in the time of fellowship.

Leader: Janet Kay

Reader: Margaret Cheffers

Music: Joan Pratt

References: Candle words: *from RexAE Hunt 170310*; Opening Prayer: Norman Habel. Season of Creation. www.seasonofcreation.com, Song: *All the Wonder that Surrounds Us*, John L Bell © 2002, Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community; Intercessory Prayer: <https://sacredise.com/may-our-prayers-be/>; Blessing: Francis Macnab (adapted).
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