

Order of Worship
June 26th, 2002

Gathering Music

Steve Johnson

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul
I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul

Welcome

David Norton, CRE

Call to Worship

Liturgist

One: Let us rejoice in the day that God has given us!

All: Yes, may we once again worship the God who gives life!

One: May we all sing and pray with a singleness of heart and mind.

All: We pray that the Lord will bless us with truth and light and joy.

Hymn

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

GTG 688

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4 Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

5 Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

David Norton, CRE

Christ has set us free from everything that might detain, oppress, or derail us. But we should not confuse this with the right to do whatever we wish. No, we are called to serve others, to share God's hope and joy with everyone we meet. Let us confess how we have misused this wonderful gift of grace, as we pray together, saying,

Prayer of Confession

**Your way, O God, is holy,
and we are quick to say we will follow it;
but we so easily look back and show ourselves unworthy of your
kingdom.**

**Your Spirit, O God, would bear good fruit in our lives;
but we so soon return to the works of the flesh,
devouring one another and seeking self-gratification.**

**Forgive us, Holy God,
for each time we have opposed your Spirit, or wandered from your
way.**

**Give us the resolute Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that we may follow him in the way of true discipleship,
the way of the cross, bearing good and lasting fruit
that is most pleasing to you. Amen.**

(A period of silence will be kept for personal confession.)

Words of Forgiveness

Redeeming God, how easily we say we would follow you, but how often we live as if we don't have a clue as to what that means. We choose to judge others, rather than surrounding them with love. Our competitive nature wills us to win at all costs, when we could be engaged in costly service. We expect others to do for us and rarely ask what we might do for them.

Forgive us, Holy One. Set us free to serve in love and compassion; help us to feast on the fruit the Spirit offers to us; put us on the path

of faithful discipleship, as we walk with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now an ever shall be, world with out end. Amen. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

Creator Spirit, who hovered over the waters at creation's birth, who descended in the form of a dove at Jesus' baptism, who was poured out under the signs of fire and wind at Pentecost: come to us, open our hearts and minds, so that we may hear the Word of life and be renewed by your power, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Luke 9:51-62

Liturgist

⁵¹When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he

said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Second Lesson.

Galatians 5:1,13-25

David Norton, CRE

⁵For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have

crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Musical Selection

Sermon

Living in the Spirit
(PowerPoint slides)

David Norton, CRE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith (United Church of Canada)

**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 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 live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
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.

**Prayers of the People and
The Lord's Prayer**

David Norton, CRE

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them well:

- if it is service, serve with humility;
- if it is contribution, give generously;
- if it is mercy, offer with cheerfulness.

We will now receive the morning offering.

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ all people
here below;**

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise triune God whom we adore.

Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist

Generous and loving God, teach us to love and trust you more completely. Help us to be generous in our giving and loving in our actions as we share with others what you have shared with us.

Amen.

Hymn

When Peace like a River

GTG #840

**1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain:

**It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.**

**2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]**

**3 He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought.
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]**

**4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. [Refrain]**

Benediction

David Norton, CRE

Postlude

Steve Johnson