

# STRATHROY

UNITED CHURCH

SEASON of CREATION  
Sunday, September 4, 2022

WELCOME & TELLING OUR STORY

Brad Morrison

## ▲ Gathering to Worship God ▲

PRELUDE

Andy Cloutier

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*GATHERING HYMNS

### **I've Got Peace like a River**

577 VU

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

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

*Words: African-American spiritual*

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### **It's a Song of Praise**

30 MV

It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
The thrush sings high in the tree.  
It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
The gray whale sings in the sea,

*And by the Spirit you and I  
Can join our voice to the holy cry  
And sing, sing to the Maker too.*

It's a call of life to the Giver  
When waves and waterfalls roar.

It's a call of life to the Giver  
When high tides break on the shore. (*And by the Spirit...*)

It's the chorus of all creation;  
It's sung by all living things.  
It's the chorus of all creation;  
A song the universe sings, (*And by the Spirit...*)

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## GATHERING PRAYER AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

*Stand as able and greet others with:  
"The Peace of Christ be with you," and "Also with you."*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### ▲ **Blessed at Table & Font** ▲

## THANKSGIVING & OFFERING

### \*OFFERTORY SONG                      Water Flowing                      87 MV

Water flowing from the mountains.  
Water flowing o'er the earth.  
Water comes to us, so precious. Living water gives us birth.

Drink deep this source of life. Drink deep and know.  
For living water sings, and living water brings  
The love that makes our spirit grow.

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## PASTORAL PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

### ▲ **Listening for God** ▲

### \*HYMN                      In You There is a Refuge                      84 MV

In you there is a refuge, in you we find our peace.  
When all we know is chaos may our trust in you increase.  
In you there is a silence, in you our minds are clear.  
When all we hear is discord  
may your quiet draw us near.

In you there is a vision, in you we learn to dream.  
When all we see is desert may you be our living stream.  
In you there is a future, in you we find our way.  
When hope has shed its brightness  
may you show us a new day.

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RESPONSE	Psalm 1 (VU 724)	Wanda Dickey
SOLO		Andy Cloutier
SCRIPTURE	Luke 14:25-33	
SERMON		Brad Morrison

## ▲ Sent into God's World ▲

\*HYMN Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song 641 VU

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey,  
I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go:  
for our life and our peace and our love is yourself.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant  
to carry your cross and to share  
all your burdens and tears,  
for you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey,  
but courage will come with the sound  
of your steps by my side;  
and with all of my brothers you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.,  
God shall all the people feed.

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\*SENDING FORTH & BLESSING

One: As the air sings with songs of glory,

**All: As the water flashes with the silver of creation,**

One: As the forests bloom with leaves

For the healing of the nations,

**All: May God's light fill our hearts and minds,**

**And lead us forth to walk**

**Gently and humbly upon the earth. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Andy Cloutier

[www.strathroyunitedchurch.ca](http://www.strathroyunitedchurch.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/strathroyunitedchurch](https://www.facebook.com/strathroyunitedchurch)

▲ worship ministry ▲

**Livestream.** Are you unable to attend in-person worship? Our Sunday 10am worship is also available live online. We livestream on both Facebook and YouTube. Consider joining us online for an interactive experience. Livestream links, as well as a copy of the worship bulletin, are available at [www.strathroyunitedchurch.ca](http://www.strathroyunitedchurch.ca).

▲ fellowship ministry ▲

**Women's Study & Support Group.** Are you interested in a small group for discussion and support? Wanda Dickey is hosting a six-week small group for women, exploring spirituality and life challenges with mutual support, prayer, and book study. Meetings are Wednesday evenings 7:30pm – 9:00pm (September 21, 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26). Please contact Wanda at [wandaedickey@gmail.com](mailto:wandaedickey@gmail.com)

**Parlour Group.** Join us for a Welcome Fall Picnic lunch on Monday, September 19 at 11:30am. Bring a bag lunch and beverage and meet at the Kiwanis Pavilion in Alexandra Park. Enjoy our beautiful park setting and time with our church friends. In case of rain, we will meet in the Golden Jubilee Room. For more information, contact Nancy Larocque (519.245.1304), Alma Robb (519.245.0717), or Ida Traxler (519.245.3524).

**Patti's Come-and-Go.** Please drop by the church office on Patti's last day of work – Thursday, September 29 – to say thank you and give your best wishes to Patti as she wraps up three years as our Office Administrator. Join us for coffee and snacks from 9am to noon.

**Fellowship Hour.** You are all invited to join others in the congregation for a few minutes of fellowship and a cup of coffee following the worship service.

**Hospital Visits.** Please notify the office (519.245.0276) when you or your loved one are in hospital. The minister depends on being notified by patients or family to know that someone's in hospital.

**Pastoral Emergencies.** Brad can be reached outside of office hours at 519.330.0074 for crisis care (deaths, hospitalizations). Please contact the church office for administrative matters.

## ▲ outreach ministry ▲

**Bub'z Drop In and Soup Kitchen.** We invite congregation members to support our \$500 target for Bub'z Drop In and Soup Kitchen to help them supply their weekly lunch on Monday, August 29. Please make cheques and e-transfers payable to *Strathroy United Church* with the memo: Bub'z

**Community Food Drive.** The Oneida Nation of the Thames Reserve needs the following items: clothing, non-perishable food items, diapers, as well as tooth and feminine hygiene items. All donations go to Bub'z Drop In and Soup Kitchen. Items can be dropped off in the boxes available in the Golden Jubilee Room. To make a monetary donation, contact Anthony Ireland (519.694.1514).

## ▲ teaching ministry ▲

**Children's Worship** is unavailable until further notice as a precaution while children return to schools and await vaccination. If you are interested in leading Children's Worship in the future, please contact Brad Morrison ([brad@strathroyunitedchurch.ca](mailto:brad@strathroyunitedchurch.ca)).

## ▲ proclamation ministry ▲

**Vision Statement.** The General Council of The United Church of Canada approved this vision statement: "Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, the United Church of Canada seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice."

## ▲ governance & support ▲

**Vacation.** The Office Administrator will be on vacation beginning Monday, September 5 and will return to the office Monday, September 12.

## ▲ community partners ▲

**Youth Job Connection** begins Tuesday, September 6. If you are a youth between ages 15-29, not working or in school, and facing barriers to employment, "it may be time for a change. For more information or to register, call 519.245.4500 or email [reception@communityemploymentchoices.ca](mailto:reception@communityemploymentchoices.ca)

**Prisoner of Tehran.** The engaging true story of teenage Marina Nemat will be performed by Motus O Dance Theatre in conjunction with Mount Forest United Church on Saturday, September 10 at 7:30pm. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Rhoda Seibert (519.323.2105).

**RCMP Career Presentation** is being hosted by Community Employment Choices on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00pm. This event is a great opportunity to explore a career as a police officer with the RCMP! For more information or to register, call 519.245.4500 or email [reception@communityemploymentchoices.ca](mailto:reception@communityemploymentchoices.ca)

**The Skills of Wellbeing.** South West Self Management Program presents The Skills of Wellbeing, an online workshop on where to start, so you can make it happen. The next workshop will be held Monday, September 19 from 10:00am to 11:30am. For more information or to register, visit [www.swselfmanagement.ca](http://www.swselfmanagement.ca)

**Living Healthy with Diabetes.** Do you have or care for someone who has diabetes? The South West Self Management Program is hosting this free online workshop beginning Tuesday, September 20 at 1:00pm. For more information or to register, email [info@swselfmanagement.ca](mailto:info@swselfmanagement.ca)

**Powerful Tools for Caregivers.** Feeling stretched caring for a loved one? South West Self Management offers a free six-week online workshop to help caregivers care for themselves, beginning Tuesday, September 20 at 4:00pm. For more information or to register, email [info@swselfmanagement.ca](mailto:info@swselfmanagement.ca)

**Thursdays in Black:** Working Together to End Gender-Based Violence in Canada is an online conversation about how gender-based violence is a critical issue affecting our communities and ways local action can work to stop violence against women in Canada. Join Danielle Strickland, David Stevenson, and Sage Lacerte online Tuesday, September 20 at 1:00pm. For more information or to register, visit <https://united-church.ca/events>