

# Jordan Station United Church est. 1859

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March 15, 2020 – Third Sunday of Lent

Liturgical Colour – Purple

A Worship Service for PIE Day

PIE = Public. Intentional. Explicit

## **THE PEOPLE GATHER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP - 11:00am**

Prelude: I Can Sing a Rainbow (by Arthur Hamilton)

### **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**

Today as we recognize and honour the lands of our First Nations People, we do so as a continuing act of reconciliation with those who called the land home before we arrived as settlers. We also acknowledge the Indigenous governances that exist today and our need to listen to their concerns and move forward with peaceful acts of reconciliation.

### **Opening Music: My Love Colours Outside the Lines**

(More Voices 138)

My love colours outside the lines,  
exploring paths that few could ever find;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before,  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

My Lord colours outside the lines,  
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

We'll never walk on water  
if we're not prepared to drown,  
body and soul need a soaking  
from time to time.  
And we'll never move the grave-stones  
if we're not prepared to die,  
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **TO WORSHIP GOD...**

#### **Call to Worship:**

One: We come together to worship to celebrate publicly, to intentionally lift up all gathered,  
to be explicit in our acceptance and kindness for all!

**All: We come together as the rainbow people of God!**

#### **TO PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD...**

### **Time with the Young and Young at Heart**

## **Prayer of Illumination**

Let us pray . . . God and Father of all, You are above all, and through all, and in us all. We pray to you as one nation, the Christian nation. Please help us to see the beauty of your world - all the colours and diversity in each of us. The reds, yellows, oranges, purples, blues and greens. We pray Lord, that you will teach us to welcome everyone into this, Your Sanctuary. It is with great sorrow that we see so many gay men and women who have given up and taken their own lives because they couldn't be themselves. Help us to pray for those that haven't yet found their way, that there is still hope, that it will get better, that in this sanctuary there is Love for all of Your followers.

Help us to look upon the orange Farmer lilies and feel your healing power; the yellow Daffodils and feel your bravery; to see the red Roses, and know we are all tied together as Christians in Your service. To see all the green foliage, and know we are all part of your Creation. To look upon the Blue Forget-me-nots and sense your peace and serenity. Help us to reflect and ask for your guidance when we see and smell the purple lavender.

All this we ask through our Saviour, your son, Jesus. Amen.

## **Gospel: Matthew 5:14-16**

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

One: For the word of God in scripture,  
For the word of God among us,  
For the word of God within us;

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Rainbow Reflection

**Reflection Hymn: Rainbow Connection** (Muppets)

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Life and Work of Jordan Station United Church  
(Announcements)

### **Minute for Mission: "White Privilege"**

Our gifts for Mission & Service work to create opportunities to understand what it means to be an intercultural church. Here is a story about one of those opportunities.

Beth Baskin, Program Coordinator, Social Analysis and Congregational Engagement, in the Church in Mission Unit of The United Church of Canada, reflects on White Privilege:

As someone who supported a delegation to the Global White Privilege Conference in May 2018 and supports the White Privilege Working Group, I spend a lot of time thinking about it.

White Privilege is the norm that allows me to go through my day without really having to think about what I do or say. The systems work pretty well for me. This is a problem. The problem is that I (and lots of others) can go through life ignoring racism and the resulting oppression and exclusion. I will be a poorer person for the lack of diversity and understanding in my life and faith, but really, unless I go out of my way to be in relationships with those whom the systems exclude, I can live in my White bubble. This choice will give me occasional pangs of sadness for the oppressed but have no real consequences for my day-to-day living.

It is my job and the job of the White Privilege Working Group, among others, to ask the questions that lead us to understand others' cultures and experiences. We must find real, tangible ways to change our church to honour and incorporate ways of being, knowing, and deciding that are not the dominant church norm.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

Offering Invitation

**\*\*Doxology: What Can I Do?** (More Voices #191)

What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Offering Prayer, Joys & Concerns

**Chorale Prayer: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

(Voices united #400)

**Lord, listen to Your children praying,  
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place,  
Lord, listen to Your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer**

**GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME ...**

**\*\*Closing Hymn: Draw the Circle Wide** (More Voices #145)

**Refrain**

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

**Verse 1**

God the still-point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms.

**Refrain**

**Verse 2**

Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call.

**Refrain**

**Verse 3**

Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door.

**\*\*Commission and Benediction - Sending Forth into the World**

**Postlude: "Help"** (by the Beatles)  
(duet by Pete & Joyce)

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*(This short Worship Service was created by Rev. Ruth Noble to celebrate the first-ever PIE Day (National Affirming Day) on March 14, 2019 at the United Church's General Council Office. Ruth is the Mission & Service Engagement Coordinator at the General Council Office.)*

***PIE = Public. Intentional. Explicit.***

*These are the standards we hold ourselves and our welcome to when we become affirming, welcoming, or inclusive communities. March 14 is a chance to serve some pie and roll out the PIE by celebrating the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in faith communities and beyond across Canada.*

*PIE Day (National Affirming Day) is an initiative of Affirm United and Affirming Connections. For more information, visit National Affirming Day at [www.pieday.ca](http://www.pieday.ca).*