

THE PRESQUE ISLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

October 9, 2022

Proper 23

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering Music

Show Me the Path of Life

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the sustaining presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Welcome

Melissa Vance

Introit

Community¹

Christine Valters Paintner

Opening Prayer² (*call and respond*)

One: God, we've come thirsty—thirsty for your Spirit.

All: Living water, bubble up from inside us and lead us toward deep spirituality.

One: God, we've come hungry—hungry for community.

All: Bread of life, feed our spirits, and lead us toward bold discipleship in community.

One: God, we've come searching—searching for wholeness.

All: Source of Life, guide us, and lead us toward daring justice.

One. God, feed, nourish, and prepare us to be your church in the world.

All: Amen

Opening Hymn

God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years

Prayer of Confession³

In the stopping, in the pausing, in the quiet,
we cannot avoid what we are not:

Our faults, our lack of faith,
our lack of vision and of action,
our lack of trust – all bubble to the surface.

You, Loving God, see who we are
and still stand by us – offering us hope
and above all, forgiveness.

Words of Assurance

Friends, receive God's forgiveness.

May God's love set you free this day and always. Amen.

¹ Permission to stream visual liturgy piece, *Community* by Christine Valters Paintner, is granted by a subscription to [The Work of the People](#).

² Written by Alydia Smith and Teresa Burnett-Cole
<https://united-church.ca/prayers/call-and-vision-opening-prayer>

³ <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=400>

Two-Minute Talk

Luke 17:11-19 "Jesus heals a Samaritan"

Meg Hegemann

Scripture ReadingJeremiah 29:1, 4-7⁴

James Pritchard

The prophet Jeremiah sent a letter from Jerusalem to the few surviving elders among the exiles, to the priests and the prophets, and to all the people Nebuchadnezzar had taken to Babylon from Jerusalem.

The Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel, proclaims to all the exiles I have carried off from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and settle down; cultivate gardens and eat what they produce. Get married and have children; then help your sons find wives and your daughters find husbands in order that they too may have children. Increase in number there so that you don't dwindle away. Promote the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because your future depends on its welfare.

Choral Anthem*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

PIUCC Choir

Reflection

Meg Hegemann

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**Closing Hymn***Lead Me, Lord***Benediction**

⁴ Common English Bible