

**The Presque Isle Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

“A Service of Pride, Queerness, and Welcome”

Words of Welcome

Jennifer Gillis-White, Lay Worship Leader

Call to Worship

Dear Friends, let us love one another

For love comes from God

Everyone who loves is born of God

For God is Love

Opening Prayer and Welcoming Statement (in unison)

God who is love, we thank you for guiding our hearts and our minds during our Open and Affirming process. We are grateful to be celebrating Pride month as a congregation who can say boldly...

The Presque Isle Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is an open and affirming congregation that embraces Jesus' teachings about God's love for every person. We therefore welcome persons of any age, race, culture, nationality, and religious background; all sexual orientations and gender identities; persons of any marital, educational, or financial status; regardless of physical and mental health or ability. All are invited into full participation in the life of our faith community. We accept with gratitude the beautiful diversity of God's creation as we share God's love in our community and beyond

We pray that you never stop inspiring us to do more and to be more for our LGBTQ+ siblings. Help us inspire those around us, to stir hearts and minds, and to welcome those who are unfairly left out.

Opening Hymn

“Part of the Family” Jim & Jean Strathdee

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Kim-Anne Perkins

Creator God, you gave us a simple commandment; love one another. Yet, so often, that love is unfairly denied to many, including LGBTQ+ persons. Forgive us for staying silent when we should have spoken out. Give us strength to stand up for justice and declare that all have been created perfectly in your image.

Words of Assurance ¹

Kim-Anne Perkins

Be assured, people of God,
when we fail, God does not;
when we avoid, God seeks us out;
when we forget, God calls us back;
when we disengage, God builds relationship.
God forgives you, God loves you,
and God calls you to new life, again and again. Amen.

Two-Minute Message

Jennifer Gillis-White

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:26-29

Common English Bible

Ray Rice

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Now if you belong to Christ, then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the promise.

Proclamation

"The Queerness of Creation"

Tamish Michael Robson

Reflective Music

"My Love Colors Outside the Lines"

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer² (in unison)

Sara Harvey

Our Parent, who is among us, blessed be your Creation.

May your reign be a reality here on earth.

May we become more interested in building your kin-dom here and now than in waiting for it to come down from above.

Let us share our bread with those who hunger.

Let us learn to forgive as well as to receive forgiveness.

Help us through the time of temptation, delivering us from all evil.

For ours are the eternal blessings that you pour upon the earth. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Let Us Build A House (All Are Welcome)"

Benediction

Jennifer Gillis-White

Let us go from here to proclaim the good news: God takes on flesh in the strange and surprising.

Love liberates from the margins. Together, we have what we need to resist oppression.

With a renewed commitment to solidarity with God and all LGBTQIA+ and Two-Spirit people, may the Spirit lead us from this place with peace.³

²"A Contemporary Lord's Prayer" Copyright © by J. Manny Santiago, 1999. From the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

³Taken from "Enfleshed: Worship Service and Communion Liturgy for Affirming PIE Day" United Church of Canada