

St. James' Day Away, June 11, 2017

at

North Bank Lodge, Pippy Park



Worship
in the Park



St. James United Church

Day Away Worship at North Bank Lodge, Pippy Park, June 11, 2017

Minister:

Minister of Youth/Christian Education:

Acting Minister of Visitation:

Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Susan Sheppard, DLM

Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray

Gathering and Welcome



Silence

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

One: Creator of the world, eternal God,

All: we have come from many places for a little while.

One: Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,

All: we have come with all our differences, seeking common ground.

One: Spirit of unity, go-between-God,

All: we have come on journeys of our own, to a place where journeys meet.

One: So here, in this place full of Your beauty in nature, let us take time together,
for when paths cross and pilgrims gather, there is much to share and
celebrate.

All: In your name, three-in-one God, pattern of community. Amen.

Opening Song: *Lord, prepare me to be a Sanctuary*

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true;

with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.

Prayer of Confession and Restoration:

One: Eternal God, Maker of the skies above, lowly Christ born amidst the growing earth, Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters in earth, sea and sky, You are there. O hidden mystery, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, Your presence is around us, and we give thanks.

All: But when we have not touched but trampled You in creation, when we have not met but missed You in another, when we have not received but rejected You in the poor, forgive us, and hear now our plea for mercy.

Silence

One: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: *"Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace, come and follow me."*

Silence

All: Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge Your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries *Glory!* through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20: 1-16

Silence

Prayers of Intercession: It is in this mystery of communion with Christ that we pray for the Church throughout the world. We pray in particular for....

We pray for the people and for all communities of faith.....

We pray for the sick, the bereaved, the oppressed and the homeless. We pray in particular for....

We pray for the broken and torn fabric of the earth as it yearns for healing. We pray in particular for....

And because You are one with us, O Christ, enable us to share Your life with the world. And so we pray, in the words You have taught us:

All: Our Father....



Silence/Lighting of Candles

Invitation: The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love Him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified Himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet Him here.

The Story of the Last Supper: Blessed is our brother Jesus, who walks with us on the road of our world's suffering, and who is known to us in the breaking of the bread and the pouring of the wine.

After having blessed it, He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, *"This is my body, given to you."* In the same way He took wine and having given thanks for it, He poured it out and gave the cup to His disciples, saying, *"This is the new relationship with God, sealed with My blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you in the coming Kingdom of God."*

Let us pray together.

All: Loving God, through Your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know Your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we may know Your touch in all bread and all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among His community through the centuries. We celebrate the life that Jesus shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves. We are a single, holy living sacrifice. Amen.

The Prayer of Consecration: Hear us, O Christ, and breathe Your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine. May they become for us Your body, vibrant with Your life, healing, renewing and making us whole. And as the bread and wine, which we now eat and drink, reminds us of You and Your ministry, may we in turn become whole, living and caring in the world.

The Communion: Look, the Body of Christ is broken for the life of the world. Here is the Christ coming to us in bread and in wine: the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sharing the Bread and the Wine

Song: *We are marching in the Light of God*

Verse 1: *We are marching in the light of God.*

Verse 2: *Siyahamb'ekukhanyen'kwenkhos*

Blessing:

One: May the everlasting God shield you east and west and wherever you go. And the blessing of God be with you. The Blessing of the God of Life be with you. The blessing of Christ be upon you.

All: The Blessing of the Christ of Love.

One: The blessing of the Spirit be upon you.

All: The blessing of the Spirit of Grace.

One: The blessing of God our Creator, Jesus our Friend and Savior and the Holy Spirit, love's power be upon you, now and forevermore.

All: Amen.

***Service and Communion Liturgy has been adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, the Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland.*