

We're glad you're here!

November 16, 2025
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Anniversary Celebration

Rev. Wayne Reed

Bold print indicates a congregational response

* Indicates standing if you are able

We gather to praise God

Prelude: Dr. Daniel Mehdizadeh

Greeting & Welcome

Announcements

Land acknowledgement:

We are bound on this land by relationships.

We are bound to God's creation and to one another.

Those relationships have benefited this community.

Those relationships have blessed us and cost others.

We speak acknowledgement of our presence.

Our presence is at the expense of others.

We must learn to share, as God has shared with us.

On this land of the treaty territory of the Williams Nations, and the traditional territory of other Anishinaabeg peoples, the Wendat, and the Haudenosaunee we are bound to Indigenous neighbours and their fate. Where we have failed in this relationship, forgive us and give us the wisdom to repair.

May we learn to live into our commitments to Truth and Reconciliation and to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

and cast a better future for all.

~ Tony Snow, Indigenous Minister, Chinook Winds Region, Alberta

Gathering our thoughts for worship

(or - do you remember when....)

Opening hymn: #222 Come, let us sing!

Call To Worship

We have been called to dance the dance of life and relationships together.

But we never should dance in church!

Yes, so we've been told.

But King David danced, and Miriam danced. Many people of the Bible danced to celebrate!

We will sing and we'll clap our hands, and we will continue to dance - the dance of life!

Dance then! Lift your hearts in praise and joy and dance the dance of life, and life relationships.

Hymn: #245 "Praise the Lord...."

Prayer of Approach

God of every dance of life, of daily work and sabbath rest, accept the praise we offer. In the celebration of our past, there are many places within us, that recognizes and celebrates life in all its fullness - a life we owe to you and to the ancient ones who lived this land before us. And so we come to celebrate our life relationships and to worship together as a family - thanking you for all that you have given to us in this dance of life - and asking you to accept what we offer in response. Amen.

Hymn: Spirit Dancing On The Waters

Prayer of Confession

As the early church experienced your spirit drawing together individuals from widely differing backgrounds, expectations and outlooks, building with them an effective witness to the power of your love, O God, so we too would feel your presence, linking us, throughout the seasons, with one another, in the hopes and dreams of a society where your will and your love will be the governing principles of life.

Forgive our retreat from involvement, whether it be a matter of convenience, or a withholding of ourselves from issues that would demand of us that we become more than we have been, that we make new and deeper commitments of ourselves to your purposes in our community and our world.

Enrich our time of worship and of interaction with one another with a deepened sense of your presence, that as we celebrate the dances of life, our experiences of your love and grace in our lives, our perceptions of your guidance within us, we may be empowered for the carrying out of your will in this time of our lives. **Amen.**

Words of Affirmation

All guilt is a self-defeating emotion.

It drains us.

Forgiveness gives us a fresh start - the freedom to dance again in life's celebration. Accept God's forgiveness for our shortcomings.

We are free now, to continue our dances of life.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

We gather to hear God's word

Responsive Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.

Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,

giving joy to the heart.

**The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord
are firm, and all of them are righteous.

**They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the
honeycomb.**

By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be
blameless, innocent of great transgression.

**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in
your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

Ephesians 1:3-14

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 13-19

Homily: "...and David danced!"

... with the outstretched arms of God for 172 years - I think we can all say:

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Let us pray, as we come together with all people – here – and from the past, present
and future:*

Holy one, you have called us into the beauty of your realm.

We come, imperfect as we are, because we have experienced your call.

Holy One, you are faithful from generation to generation.

We come, thankful for those we know who followed your Way and led us here.

Holy One, you love us as we are – broken and beautiful.

We come, thankful for your unconditional love.

Holy one, you transform us day by day into all we are called to be.

We come willing to change and grow as we seek justice in the world.

Holy One, you are aware of all those who will come after us.

We come, desiring to be a faithful witness to those of your beloved kingdom.

Holy One, you are the source of all connections, families, story and song in the dances
of our lives.

We come, knowing that we are not alone.

Thanks be to you, O God. Amen.

The Offertory:

Offertory Song: #225 vs.1

Dedication of Our Gifts and Tithes

God of abundance, we offer these gifts with joyful hearts, grateful for the

knowledge of our many blessings. May we use our money, time and talents to serve each other and you. Amen

Hymn: #424 "May The God Of Hope"

Benediction:

Let us go out into a world that is craving healing and wholeness. Let us praise God, whose power is working within us and through us. Let us go now, surrounded by the love of the Spirit who shows us we can do more than we can ever imagine!

Let us go out and dance the relationships of life!

and then, we continue the journey.

Hymn #224 Sing A Happy Hallelujah

Music For The Journey
Dr. Daniel Mehdizadeh