



St. Thomas United Church
Open Hands – Open Hearts – Open Minds

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Sunday, April 23, 2017, 10:00am
Theme: Zambia

✠ indicates stand as you are able

Bold indicates participation by the people

MV = More Voices

VU = Voices United

We Gather With

PRELUDE: *Kari Orosz - Climb Ev'ry Mountain*

- by Richard Rodgers

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Youth Choir - Climb Ev'ry Mountain*

WELCOME to our Livestream Worship Service
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY 7 LAND

GREETING ONE ANOTHER & ANNOUNCEMENTS
(Congregational Meeting directly after church today)

A wicker prayer basket will be sent around. If you have a prayer, please print clearly on a prayer slip, place your prayer in the wicker basket, and pass the basket along.

INTROIT: *This Is the Day*

MV#122

CHRIST CANDLE & SILENCE: *Amanda Sherwin*

CALL TO WORSHIP: **(Responsive)**

In this beautiful space, full of beautiful people,
we open our hearts and our lungs to the grace of God.

In our breath and in our being, we live by the guidance of God.

We come into this unjust world with our fear, and with our doubt.

We come ready to open our hearts and show our neighbours love.

God is the light in the darkness.

God, show us the way.

God loves all.

God loves us.

God is good!
All the time!
All the time!
God is good!

OPENING PRAYER: (*Unison*)

As we join together today as equals under God's call, we ask of our teacher Christ to guide us in a way of generosity and compassion.

We pray the Holy Spirit may offer peace in these times of confusion, and comfort in these times of strife. With open hands, and empty hearts, we thank you God. Amen.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Youth Choir – "Ezekiel and David" – Traditional spiritual; arr. by Sally Albrecht*

CHILDREN'S TIME: Listening

†HYMN: *Like a Rock*

MV#92

(Children and Youth are invited to join their leaders at one of the entrances to the Sanctuary)

SCRIPTURE: *1 Corinthians 13:4-8 and Micah 6:8*

Scripture Reader: Zambia Youth

Affirmation:

One: This is the witness of The Church,

Many: thanks be to God!

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Youth Choir – "A Gentle Alleluia" – J.S. Bach; arr. by Linda Spevacek*

THE MESSAGE: *Zambia and Micah – Seek Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly*

†HYMN: *What Does the Lord Require of You (round)*

VU#701

MINUTE FOR ST. THOMAS:

The Mission and Outreach Committee

INVITATION TO OPEN HANDS
OPPORTUNITY TO OPEN HANDS
with our Offerings & Prayers.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Youth Choir - Edelweiss*

†OFFERTORY: *Grateful (chorus only)*

MV#182

†OFFERTORY PRAYER: (**Unison**)

**Creator of all,
bless these gifts from the community.
May they aid in seeking justice,
may they spread your love and kindness,
and let them help us walk humbly with you. Amen.**

CALL TO PRAYER: *Now the Green Blade Rises (v1)*

VU#186

PASTORAL PRAYERS (Leader) & PRAYER OF JESUS (**Unison**)

†COMMISSIONING: (**Responsive**)

All We Are *written by Andrew Nicholson*

Walk humbly with your God.

Tell him of the things you're less proud of.

Let all your burdens wash away.

Speak honestly with your love.

Throw caution to the wind if you've had enough.

Take all his Promises to the grave.

Refrain

All we are

And all we have

Our endless love

Goes on and on.

Sing praise to the morning rain.

Take your heart on a slower train.

Show the world the strength born from pain.

Take measure of all you are.

You've got your faults and we've got ours.

I believe in grace and all my faith.

Refrain

When the darkness comes,
and the world's undone,
will you take me home?
If I bare my soul,
will you share my load?
Will you make me whole?

Refrain

BENEDICTION:

May God bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
May God turn grace toward you,
and give you peace to the river of whom you are. **Amen.**

HYMN: We Are Pilgrims

VU#595

POSTLUDE: The Youth Choir – My Favourite Things
Beautiful Anishinaabe Travelling Song

I am the reason you walk.

I created you so that you might walk this earth.

I am the reason you walk.

I gave you motivation so you would continue to walk even when the path became difficult, even seemingly impossible.

I am the reason you walk.

I animated you with that driving force called love, which compelled you to help others who had forgotten they were brothers and sisters to take steps back toward one another.

And now, as that journey comes to an end, I am the reason you walk, for I am calling you home.

Walk home to me on that everlasting road.

Participating in worship leadership today: Rev. Tracy Robertson, Kari Orosz, The Youth Choir, Mark Wagner, Don Mills, The Zambia Youth, The Mission & Outreach Committee, Cathy Rivard, Deyelle MacDonald, Andrew Taylor-Kerr, Matt Taylor-Kerr, Amanda Sherwin, Andrew Nicholson, Tess & Harold Ashley, Andrew Major, Linda Miller.