

Music for Meditation

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Gathering Song

♪ ♪ **Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life (x 2)**

**Root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.
Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life.**

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that ləkʷəŋən peoples did not give up the right to the land that sustained bodies, minds and spirits for thousands of years—despite colonial interpretations of the Douglas Treaty. We, the people of James Bay United Church, now use this same land and so we recommit to taking on the challenging and healing work to move toward reconciliation and right relationship.

Lighting the Christ Candle: Owen McCooley

♪ ♪ **God of earth and every creature,
God of wind and God of sky, God of old and new creation,
Be with us now. Be with us now.**

Opening Prayer

God of all, we gather in your presence to remind ourselves that you are there. We are always in your awareness, but sometimes you escape ours. So here we are, together, ready to worship you. Receive our thanks in this Season of Creation for all that you have provided. As we gather under the Tree of Life, help us to be strong like a tree trunk, grounded like the roots, and ready to hear your call. Guide us as we care for your creation,

for each other, and for ourselves. Transform us into the most loving version of ourselves, for the sake of your kingdom here on Earth. Amen.

Hymn MV135 Called by Earth and Sky

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

♪ ♪ **Spirit of Life, come unto me,
sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

~ VU 381 Spirit of Life ~

Scripture Reading Proverbs 1:20-33

Reader: Sarah Hovey

Reflection: Reverend Greg Powell

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn MV10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Prayers of the People: Reverend Greg Powell
O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos, you create all that moves in light. Focus your light within us — make it useful: as the rays of a beacon show the way. Unite our “I can” to yours, so that we walk as kings and queens with every creature. Create in us a divine cooperation — from many selves, one voice, one action.

...

**Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.
Forgive our hidden past, the secret shames, as we
consistently forgive what others hide. Deceived neither
by the outer nor the inner — free us to walk your path
with joy. From you is born all ruling will, the power and
life to do, the song that beautifies all from age to age it
renews. Amen.**

Offering Ourselves with our Gifts

♪♪ **For the Gift of Creation, the gift of your love,
And the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
We thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**
~ VU 538 ~

Announcements: Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn MV 143 We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

Commissioning and Blessing

Response

♪♪ **We'll weave a love with roots growing deep
and sap pushing branches to wake from their sleep,
Bearing leaves burnt amber with mornings full sweep,
Together with God, we'll weave on, we'll weave on.**

**A love that heals, friends, that bends, friends, that rising
and turning then yields, friends, like the mountain to rain,
or frost in the spring, or darkness that turns with the
dawn. It's by turning , turning, turning my friends,
by turning that love moves on.**

James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

September 15, 2024

Wisdom in Creation

