



Sunday Worship, September 17, 2023
Season of Creation 3
LAKE OF BAYS PASTORAL CHARGE
Knox, Dorset – 9:00 a.m.
Stewart Memorial, Dwight – 10:15 a.m.
Pioneer, Hillside– 11:30 a.m.

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WE GATHER

Welcome, Life and Work of the Church
Lighting of the Christ Candle
Acknowledgement of the Land

Call to Worship:

God has given us this beautiful earth,
all that grows, all that lives upon it.

Thanks be to God.

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God.

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise

Opening Hymn: Called by Earth and Sky MV#135

Refrain.

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high

This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky

Precious these waters endless seas,
deep ocean's dream
Waters of healing, rivers of rain
The wash of love again R.

Precious this gift the air we breathe,
wind born and free
Breath of the Spirit blown through this place
Our gathering and our grace. R.

Precious these mountains ancient sands,
vast fragile land
Seeds of our wakening rooted and strong
Creation's faithful song R,

Precious the fire that lights the way,
bright dawning day
Fire of passion sorrows undone
Our faith and justice one R.

Prayer of Approach:

Holy Spirit, you hear our sighs and longings,
the sadness that weighs us down
when our lives are heavy
and the world is in pain.

We come to you with hungry hearts.

Inspire us by the delights of your creation, O God.

Lift our hearts like the wind in the trees,
the birds that soar, the hills and the horizon.

Fill us with a deep sense of your presence

Be with us and empower us as your people,

that we might act in the world as followers of Jesus

Who is our Wisdom and our Way.

Amen.

WE LISTEN

Scripture reading: Exodus 14:19-31 and 15:20-21

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

Response: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Spirit Dancing VU# 388

Spirit dancing on the waters,
Sun reflecting song of grace
Calling life to all the creatures,
Giving life to human race.

Spirit dancing on the waters,
Naming moment they should part,
Giving freedom to the peoples,
Signed for all in dancer's art.

Spirit dancing on the Waters
paradox of womb and grave
welcome now the Word child's coming
no one prisoner no one slave

Spirit dancing on the waters
can the dance by Cross be stilled
Earth be shaken! Dead awaken!
What was emptied shall be filled

Spirit dancing on the waters,
Give your people their new birth,
Healing, loving one another
In community with earth.

Spirit dancing on the waters,
We would come and dance with you
'til our world is filled with music
And in Christ all things are new.

Sermon: Our Red Sea Moment: Can we escape the tyranny of Pharoah today?

WE RESPOND

**OFFERING INVITATION:
DOXOLOGY VU 540**

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,

that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Prayers of the People:

CLOSING HYMN: Like a Healing Stream MV#144

1. Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth, God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding, promising revival and rebirth... like a healing stream.

2. Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed, God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation, yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.

3. Like a river strong with a restless current, Spirit water rushing on to distant shore, God is carving out a channel in a new direction, calling for an end to hate and war... like a river strong.

4. Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons, Spirit water with a love both deep and wide, God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow: God will always challenge and provide!

Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Go into the world:

dance, laugh, sing, and create.

We go with the assurance of your blessing, O God.

Go into the world:

risk, explore, discover, and love.

We go with the assurance of your grace, O God.

Go into the world:

believe, hope, struggle, and remember.

We go with the assurance of your love, O God.

Thanks be to God!

SEASON OF CREATION

Sept 17. Ancestral Story #2 The Red Sea

- Sept 17 Huntsville March to End Global Use of Fossil Fuels 1:30-3p.m. From Flag Park to RiverMill Park
- Sept 24. Orange Shirt Day: Labourers in the Vineyard:
- October 1 Worldwide Communion Sunday
- October 4 ZOOM coffee and conversation 10 am.
- October 7 Harvest Bazaar at Stewart 1-4:00 p.m.
- October 8 Thanksgiving A Cosmic Blessing

Stewardship is participation in God's Work

There are several different options for you to make your offering to Lake of Bays Pastoral Charge.1. In person and on the plate. (Each congregation has a different practice around this but you can't miss it!)2. Via PAR (preauthorized remittance). Then you don't have to think about it again. Money is withdrawn monthly 3. By e-transfer. The email address for donations via e-transfer is lobunit-edchurches@gmail.com In the subject line/comment please identify to which of the Churches you wish to donate, 4. By cheque: If you send a cheque, please make it out to Lake of Bays Pastoral Charge and mail it to: LOB United Churches, P.O. Box 196, Dwight, ON, P0A 1H0, specifying for which church the donation is intended.

Please give generously. Thank you!

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