

**Order of Worship**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
**St. James Anglican Church &**  
**Knox United Church &**  
**Caledon East United Church**  
**Fellowship 10:15AM Worship 10:30AM**

Presiding: Rev. Chris Dow & Rev. Emma Pipes  
Music Ministers: Joanne Redhead & Dennis Hahn  
& Edward Cockerton

*Abide in my love  
and you shall bear much fruit  
(cf. Jn 15:5-9)*

**Greeting/Welcome/Land Acknowledgement**

**Prelude: Dennis**

**Invitation to Prayer Chris**

**Opening Hymn : Spirit of the Living God VU#376**

**Word of Welcome (lay readers)**

- R1 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always!
- R2 And also with you.
- R1 Brothers and sisters in Christ, this year the theme of the Week of Prayer for  
Christian Unity, chosen by the sisters of the Community of Grand-champ in  
Switzerland, is: “Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit”.
- R2 It is the great desire of God, expressed by Jesus, that we might come to him  
and abide in him. He waits for us tirelessly, hoping that, united to him in love,  
we will bear fruit that will bring life to all. Faced with the difference of ‘the  
other’, we risk withdrawing into ourselves and seeing only that which separates

us. But let us listen to how Christ calls us to abide in his love, and so bear much fruit.

R1 In the three moments of prayer that follow, we remember the call of Christ, we turn to his love, to him who is the centre of our life. For the path of unity begins in our intimate relationship with God. Abiding in his love strengthens the desire to seek unity and reconciliation with others. God opens us up to those who are different from us. This is an important fruit, a gift of healing for the divisions within us, between us, and in the world.

R2 In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
Lord, you are the vinedresser who cares for us with love.  
You call on us to see the beauty of each branch united to the vine,  
the beauty of each person.  
And yet, too often the differences in others make us afraid.  
We withdraw into ourselves.  
Our trust in you is forsaken.  
Enmity develops between us.

Come and direct our hearts toward you once again.  
Grant us to live from your forgiveness  
so that we may be together and praise your name.

## **Opening Prayer:**

### **Litany of Praise**

R1 You who call us to be praise in the midst of the earth:  
glory to you!

R2 We sing your praise in the midst of the world and among all peoples,  
We sing your praise in the midst of creation and among all creatures.

R3 You who call us to be praise in the midst of the earth:  
glory to you!

R1 We sing your praise among suffering and tears,  
R2 We sing your praise among promises and achievements.

R3 You who call us to be praise in the midst of the earth:  
glory to you!

- R1 We sing your praise in the places of conflict and misunderstanding;  
R2 We sing your praise in the places of encounter and reconciliation.
- R3 You who call us to be praise in the midst of the earth:  
glory to you!
- R1 We sing your praise in the midst of rifts and divisions,  
R2 We sing your praise in the midst of life and death,  
the birth of a new heaven and a new earth.
- R3 You who call us to be praise in the midst of the earth:  
glory to you!

## **ABIDING IN CHRIST:**

### **1. THE UNITY OF THE WHOLE PERSON**

**Reading: John 15:1-17** read by Joanne Davis

**Short Meditation:** Rev. Emma Pipes

**Moment of silence**

#### **Intercessions**

- R1 God of love, through Christ you said to us: “You did not choose me but I chose you”. You seek us, you invite us to receive your friendship and abide in it. Teach us to respond more deeply to this invitation, and grow in a life that is ever more complete.
- E **The joy of our heart is in God.**
- R1 God of life, you call us to be praise in the midst of the world and to welcome one another as a gift of your grace. May your loving gaze, which rests upon each person, open us to receive each other just as we are.
- E **The joy of our heart is in God.**
- R1 God who gathers, you knit us together as one vine in your Son Jesus. May your loving Spirit abide in us at parish meetings and local ecumenical gatherings. Grant that together we might celebrate you with joy.

E     **The joy of our heart is in God.**

R1    God of the one vineyard, you call us to abide in your love in all we do and say.  
Touched by your goodness, grant us to be a reflection of that love in our homes  
and workplaces. May we pave the way for bridging rivalries and overcoming  
tensions.

E     **The joy of our heart is in God.**

**Hymn:** Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song VU# 205

## **2. THE VISIBLE UNITY OF CHRISTIANS**

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13a read by Diane Allengame

**Short Meditation:** Rev. Chris Dow

**Moment of silence**

### **Intercessions**

R2    Holy Spirit, you create and re-create the church in all places. Come and whisper  
in our hearts the prayer which Jesus addressed to his Father on the eve of his  
passion: "that they may all be one ... so that the world may believe".

C     **Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).**

R2    Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, light the fire of your love in us so that suspicions,  
contempt and misunderstanding cease in the church. May the walls that sepa-  
rate us fall.

C     **Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).**

R2    Holy Spirit, Consoler of all, open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation  
and bring us back from our wanderings.

C     **Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).**

R2    Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, give us poverty of spirit so that we may  
welcome the unexpectedness of your grace.

C     **Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).**

R2 Holy Spirit, you never abandon the men, women and children who are persecuted for their fidelity to the gospel. Give them strength and courage, and support those who help them.

C **Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).**

**Action: Sharing a Sign of Peace**

C The Lord calls us to be united among ourselves. He gives us his peace and invites us to share it. Let us exchange a sign of his peace with our neighbours. The peace of Christ be with you.

*You are invited to greet one another with a sign of peace.*

**Hymn:** Baptized into Thy Name Most Holy vs. 1, 2.  
*Theopolis Institute Hymn 5, p.30*

### **3. THE UNITY OF ALL PEOPLE & ALL CREATION**

**Psalm:** 96 read by Sharon Lambert

**Reading:** Revelation 7:9-12 NIV

C After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

E ***“Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne,  
and to the Lamb.”***

C All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying:

E ***“Amen!  
Praise and glory  
and wisdom and thanks and honor  
and power and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever.  
Amen!”***

**Short silence**

## **Video Musical Offering:**

“Blest be the tie that Binds/ Bind us Together” by Joanne Redhead

*CCLI Song # 1228 Bob Gillman, © 1977 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).*

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## **Prayers of Intercession**

**R3** God of life, you have created every human being in your image and likeness. We sing your praise for the gift of our many cultures, expressions of faith, traditions and ethnicities. Grant us the courage always to stand against injustice and hatred based on race, class, gender, religion, and fear of those not like ourselves.

**E** **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!**

**R3** Merciful God, you have shown us in Christ that we are one in you. Teach us to use this gift in the world so that believers of all faiths in every country may be able to listen to each other and live in peace.

**E** **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!**

**R3** O Jesus, you came into the world and shared fully in our humanity. You know the hardships of life for people who suffer in so many different ways. May the Spirit of compassion move us to share our time, life and goods with all those in need.

**E** **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!**

**R3** Holy Spirit, you hear the fury of your wounded creation and the cries of those already suffering from climate change. Guide us toward new behaviours. May we learn to live in harmony as part of your creation.

**E** **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope!**

**Video Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021 (Society of Pilar, India)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcT1VMraZjM>

## **The Lord's Prayer (Prayer of Jesus)**

*You are invited to pray in the language of your heart or the way you have been taught.*

C With the words that Jesus taught us, let us now pray together: **Our Father...**

**Closing Hymn:** Soil of God, You and I(Holy Ground) MV#174

C Spirituality and solidarity are inseparably linked. Prayer and action belong together. When we abide in Christ, we receive the Spirit of courage and wisdom to act against all injustice and oppression. We say together:

E **Pray and work that God may reign.**  
**Throughout your day**  
**let the Word of God breathe life into work and rest.**  
**Maintain inner silence in all things**  
**so as to dwell in Christ.**  
**Be filled with the spirit of the Beatitudes:**  
**joy, simplicity, mercy.**

*These words are recited daily by the Sisters of the Grandchamp Community.*

**Blessing & Sending Forth**

Musical Postlude