

Immanuel United Church  
Third After Epiphany  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
January 22, 2023

## **PRELUDE**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES**

Today, we acknowledge the land that we are gathered on is Treaty 1 territory..... the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota Peoples, as well as the homeland and the heart of the Metis Nation, who for thousands of years, walked gently on this land with deeply rooted gifts of spirituality, culture and ways of knowing.

We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and give thanks for the connection we share with this land – in times past and also in the present day.

Today we are called to seek a new relationship as Indigenous and non-indigenous people, creating one based on friendship, built on respect, and one that produces peace, remembering that we are **all** treaty people.

***As we enter this time of worship,  
we acknowledge the Christ candle, marking the presence of light in our midst,  
and the Rainbow Candle, symbolizing that we are an inclusive and affirming  
community, and all belong here.***

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING STATEMENT AND PRAYER**

The third week of January has in many circles been marked as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. For centuries the church sought to impose the primacy of a particular interpretation of the faith. In the past two Hundred years we have begun to learn that we have more in common than that which divides us. Today our community is not just with Christians, but with human beings of all faiths, and of no particular faith. “For God so loved the World.”

Let us pray:

Creator God, open our eyes to see a neighbour in each one we meet.

Open our hearts to embrace all who walk a difficult road. Open our arms to embrace those like us, and those different from us, for we all share life together.

AMEN

**HYMN:**      *VU# 402 We Are One*

**MOMENT TO PONDER:**

**HYMN:**      *VU# 606 In Christ There Is No East Nor West*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

**THE CHOIR ANTHEM:**    *This One Thing I Ask of the Lord*

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN:**      *MV# 154 Deep In Our Hearts*

**OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER**

We live in a world of gift and abundance. We have time, energy, money, ideas, initiative, and friends. Let us take a moment to offer what we are and what we have to be shared with our community and our world.

**Dedication: MV# 191 What Can I Do?**

**Prayer:**

**Holy One, we offer the work of our hands, the love of our hearts, the abundance of creation to be shared and spent in the renewing of your world. Bless these gifts and all our lives given in your service. AMEN.**

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER - SUNG**

**HYMN:**      *VU# 578 As A Fire Is Meant for Burning*

Blessing

Choral Amen

Postlude