

Immanuel United Church  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 14, 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 Red River Metis people, 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,  
The rainbow candle is lit  
To symbolize and remind us  
Of the commitment that we have made  
To be an inclusive and affirming community  
And that all God's people belong here.***

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **OPENING STATEMENT AND PRAYER**

The second Sunday of May has traditionally been marked as a day to honour the role of mothers in our lives. The divine image, which ancients referred to as father, we now understand encompasses all gender and transcends gender. Today's readings touch on our search to understand the divine, and how spirits touch one another.

**Let us pray:**

**Holy Mystery, we give thanks today for the gift of mothers. The blessing of nurture, and the fierce loyalty, gentle care and determined strength. Teach us to seek your spirit in the gifts of all around us, and may we dwell in you always.  
AMEN**

**HYMN:** VU#268    Bring Many Names

**MOMENT TO PONDER:**

**HYMN:** VU#296    This is God's Wondrous World

**SCRIPTURE:**

Acts 17:22-31

John 14:15-21

**THE CHOIR ANTHEM:**    Our God Is an Awesome God

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN:** MV#44    Shadow and Substance

## **OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER**

Doxology MV#191 What Can I Do?

**Let us Pray:**

**Creator, God, bless what we offer,  
Gifts shared, Lives given in service, hands and feet dedicated,  
Community of Faith inspired, to make the world a place of Hope and Joy.  
AMEN**

## **COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER - SUNG**

**HYMN: VU#258 O World of God**

Blessing

Choral Amen

Postlude