

**Immanuel United Church
May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter**

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 nonindigenous 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 welcoming community, and that all belong here. the Spirit candle is present, pointing to the presence of God guiding our lives always.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT AND PRAYER

This is a day of varied priorities. Some will be chafing at the bit to get going and celebrate Mother's Day with mother's and/or children. For others the Annual Congregational Meeting has been a responsibility, and its conclusion offers relief and a window to relax. For others the day promises time to get out in the sunshine and a chance to continue yard and garden projects that have waited too

long. Whether Church, Family, or the natural world, it is a time to celebrate life and live out the variety of stories that inspire us.

Let us Pray:

Holy One, We are grateful for the opportunities you offer us to celebrate.

Celebrate family and the love that nurtures.

Celebrate faith in community, and the stories that guide us.

Celebrate the earth and the sky, and all that opens our bodies and spirits to awe and wonder. Be in our thinking and our acting, and in our delight today.

AMEN

Hymn : VU # 242 Let All Things Now Living

MOMENT TO PONDER

In the spirit of the introduction, I want to acknowledge that there is a lot going on today. And from some of the meetings I was at this week, I know I am not alone in this. We have a choice in the story we tell. We can say, "I am so busy, Its overwhelming" or we could say, "My goodness, so many opportunities to have a positive impact". A professor I had used to say we are oppressed by opportunities. As a world, as a nation, as a church, we face uncertain times. And because all of us are multitasking today, worship will be perhaps more compact, but not abbreviated. Take a moment to turn to your neighbour and thank them for being here, through this time we will tell stories, listen to words of encouragement, pray, and we will sing. And it will be good. It will be enough.

HYMN: VU# 716 My Life Flows on

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 1

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Look At the World"

REFLECTION:

HYMN: MV# 161 I Have Called You By Your Name

OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Spring brings greening of the world and renewal of spirit. We have been gifted with all that we need. May the gifts we offer, and the lives we share, be a source of blessing, in the church and in the world.

Doxology **MV # 191**

Let us Pray:

**Holy One, may our loving and our action
bring Hope and Peace to our community and
to our world.**

AMEN

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

HYMN: VU# 703 In the Bulb There Is A Flower

COMMISSIONING:

CHORAL Blessing - Marty Haugen

POSTLUDE