



Mount Royal United Church

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey."

October 16th, 2022, Season of Creation "Land"

Congregational responses are in bold. (*) Indicates Standing.

We Come Together

Prelude... (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

Greeting

The lighting of the Christ Candle

Land Acknowledgement:

In this Season of Creation, our attention is drawn to the connection we have with this earth, one another, and God. As people who are called to love one another as Christ loves us, we acknowledge now that the land we are on is the traditional land of the Wabanaki people; in this area, they are the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy. May we continue seeking right relations with all Indigenous people, the land, and our loving God.

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: The land and all it holds,

All: was made by God, and it is good.

One: The mountains and hills, the prairies, and valleys,

All: was made by God, and it is good.

One: The soil that pulses with life, ushering new life into view,

All: was made by God, and it is good.

One: We are one with the land, and all that springs from it,

All: and we marvel at the brilliance of all creation.

One: In worship together, we are thankful for all God has made,

All: children of God's Grace, here to praise our creator!

Opening Prayer: (*unison*)

God, our Creator, as we reflect on the mystery of our fragile land, we celebrate the wonder of Your creation. As one with all the world, help us to discern where we have neglected and abandoned, and where we have been called to protect and nurture. Allow us to rediscover our kinship with the land and all it produces. Teach us to sense Your presence, pulsing through the Earth as a living green blue sanctuary of life. Move us to love the land as our home. In the name of Christ, the Word of God, who is the creative impulse in all creation. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Come, Let Us Sing"

VU#222

Prayer of Confession:

One: For the beauty of the earth— that we have not seen.

All: For the beauty of the earth— that we have not preserved.

One: For the beauty of the earth— that we have damaged or been silent at its destruction,

All: forgive us, loving God.

One: For the joy of human love— that we have ignored.

All: For the joy of human love— suffering while we watch another channel.

One: For the joy of human love— that we damage in what we have done and left undone,

All: forgive us, compassionate God. Amen. (*Silence*)

Assurance of Forgiveness:

God teaches us to raise a song of praise, not only with our lips open, but with widespread hearts and hands. Know now there is nothing that can ever separate us from the love of God. We are forgiven people and once again called to nurture this beautiful earth, all life that dwells upon it, and all aspects of human love. **Amen.**

Children's Learning Time

Children's Prayer:

We thank you God, for the earth, that is our beautiful home. The waters, the trees, the mountains, the fields, all

the places that we roam. Help us to love and care for the earth, in our work and all our play, so that it can continue to be the home we love, tomorrow as well as today. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Earth and All Stars"

VU#888

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Reader: France

Let us pray: Loving God, your Word is a living guide to us revealing the path of love and peace within the world and within our lives. As we approach your Word this morning may it resonate within our own hearts that we may be changed by the hearing and moved to action in our reflection. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 12: 38-42

Response: "A New Creed"

Sermon "Holding Space"

Anthem "The Quiet Lagoon"

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

The land and all that lives on is a delicate gift that we have been given, not only to live on, but also to care for. As we reflect on this remarkable gift of love in creation, we turn our focus to protecting that creation and all life found within it. We offer now the gifts of our hearts and lives, praying they be taken by God and used for the healing of the earth, and the care of all who call it home.

Offertory Prayer: *(unison)*

God, our Creator, through Your love, You have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need. Multiply what we offer this day, allowing these gifts to be used for the healing of this fragile earth, and all who call it home. In the Loving name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow"

VU#196

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Benediction: *(unison)*

One: May the Spirit of God, who is in all and flows through all,
fill you with the knowledge
of God's presence in the land
and the pulsing of God within you.

**All: We go in peace, serving Christ, our world, and all life
held within it. Amen.**

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

Postlude

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Clergy:	The Rev. Scott Stuart, BA, MDiv.
Music Ministry:	France Henriques
Office Administrator:	Emily Smith
Custodian:	Matt Wilson
Church Office:	855-5771
Kitchen Phone & Fax:	855-7180
Rev Scott Stuart's cell:	506-295-8089
Office e-mail:	office@mountroyaluc.ca
Mount Royal website:	www.mountroyaluc.ca
Office Hours:	Monday – Friday, 9am – 2pm

Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Oct 16 Tracy **Oct 23** Elizabeth **Oct 30** Erik **Nov. 6** Stephen

This Week's Events: Oct. 16th – 22nd

Monday	2:00pm	Sparks	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Worship Committee	Boardroom
Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
	1:00pm	Art Club	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Church Council Meeting	Church Hall
Wednesday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Choir	Sanctuary
Thursday	6:15pm	Brownies	Church Hall
Friday	5:30pm	Rummage Sale	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Book Study	Sanctuary
Saturday	8:00am	Rummage Sale	Church Hall

Announcements

UCW 60th Anniversary Service - Thurs, Oct 20th, 1-3pm: Visions United Church – All area UCW members are welcome.

Book Study - Fri, Oct 21st, 7pm – (Forgiving Yourself) Rev. Scott will be leading a book study. All who have read the book are welcome to join him for this study and discussion.

Rummage Sale - Fri, Oct 21, 5:30pm–8:00pm and Sat, Oct 22, 8:00am–11:00am. Please hold your items to drop off the week of October 17th or call Terry Foreman for pick-up of larger items.

Pancake Breakfast – Sat, Nov 5th, 8-11:00am. Would you consider volunteering? Contact Erik Gingles for more info.

Writer's Circle meet in the first Wed of the month from 12-2pm. Anyone interested in writing, or the writing process is invited and welcome to join. Participants share anything they are working on. Contact Joan at northward8@gmail.com for more details.

Fall Fair – Nov 5th @ 10-1pm: Mountain View United Church, Something for everyone, food items, crafts, books, jewelry, and refreshments.