

## Order of service

September 25, 2022

## Candle-Lighting

## Welcome & Announcements

- \* Land Acknowledgement
- \* Celebrations & Concerns
- \* Birthdays & Anniversaries
- \* Dedication of the Offering

## Call to Worship - Genesis 6: 5-22

God saw that human evil was out of control. People thought evil, imagined evil—evil, evil, evil from morning to night. God was sorry that he had made the human race in the first place; it broke his heart.

**God said, “I’ll get rid of my ruined creation, make a clean sweep: people, animals, snakes and bugs, birds—the works. I’m sorry I made them.”But Noah was different. God liked what he saw in Noah.**

This is the story of Noah: Noah was a good man, a man of integrity in his community. Noah walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. As far as God was concerned, the Earth had become a sewer; there was violence everywhere. God took one look and saw how bad it was, everyone corrupt and corrupting—life itself corrupt to the core.

**God said to Noah, “It’s all over. It’s the end of the human race. The violence is everywhere; I’m making a clean sweep. “Build yourself a ship from teakwood. Make rooms in it. Coat it with pitch inside and out. Make it 450 feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. Build a roof for it and put in a window eighteen inches from the top; put in a door on the side of the ship; and make three decks, lower, middle, and upper. “I’m going to bring a flood on the Earth that will destroy everything alive under Heaven.Total destruction.**

“But I’m going to establish a covenant with you: You’ll board the ship, and your sons, your wife and your sons’ wives will come on board with you. You are also to take two of each living creature, a male and a female, on board the ship, to preserve their lives with you: two of every species of bird, mammal, and reptile—two of everything so as to preserve their lives along with yours.Also get all the food you’ll need and store it up for you and them.”

**Noah did everything God commanded him to do.**

Family of God, from whom does our help come?

**Our help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

*Psalm 124:8*

**Opening Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness**

VU 288

1

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -  
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!

2

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. R

3

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow -  
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. R

**Opening prayer and confession**

Good and gracious God,...

*(Minister continues with Prayer)*

**O God, you made a covenant with us in faithfulness,**

but we confess we are not always so faithful to you.  
We grow tired and restless when things don't go our way.  
We lose patience with others.  
We lack compassion for our neighbours in need,  
We even forget to express love for those closest to us.  
Forgive us, gracious God.  
Lead us in the way we should go.  
Make us prisms of your love,  
making rainbows of your light,  
creating beauty and deepening hope wherever we go,  
for the sake of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Assurance of pardon & The Lord's prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

### A song of praise: The unicorn song by the Irish Rovers

1.

A long time ago, when the Earth was green  
There was more kinds of animals than you've ever seen  
They'd run around free while the Earth was being born  
And the loveliest of all was the unicorn

*There were green alligators and long-necked geese  
Some humpty backed camels and some chimpanzees  
Some cats and rats and elephants, as sure as you're born  
But the loveliest of all was the unicorn*

2

The Lord seen some sinning and it gave Him pain  
And He says, "Stand back, I'm going to make it rain"  
He says, "Hey brother Noah, I'll tell you what to do\  
Build me a floating zoo,

*and take some of those...  
Green alligators and long-necked geese  
Some humpty backed camels and some chimpanzees  
Some cats and rats and elephants, as sure as you're born  
Don't you forget my unicorns*

3.

Old Noah was there to answer the call  
He finished up making the ark  
just as the rain started falling  
He marched in the animals two by two  
And he called out as they came through

*Hey Lord, I've got green alligators and long-necked geese  
Some humpty backed camels and some chimpanzees  
Some cats and rats and elephants, but Lord, I'm so forlorn  
I just can't see no unicorns"*

4.

Then Noah looked out through the driving rain  
Them unicorns were hiding, playing silly games  
Kicking and splashing while the rain was pourin'  
Oh, them silly unicorns

*There was green alligators and long-necked geese  
Some humpty backed camels and some chimpanzees  
Noah cried, "Close the door because the rain is pourin'  
And we just can't wait for no unicorns"*

5.

The ark started moving, it drifted with the tide  
The unicorns looked up from the rocks and they cried  
And the waters came down and sort of floated them away  
And that's why you never seen a unicorn to this very day

*You'll see green alligators and long-necked geese  
Some humpty backed camels and some chimpanzees  
Some cats and rats and elephants, as sure as you're born  
You're never gonna see no unicorns*

## **Greeting Christ in All of Us - Passing the Peace**

### **The ministry of music**

### **Today's bible story Genesis 8: 6-12**

On the seventeenth day of the seventh month, the ship landed on the Ararat mountain range. The water kept going down until the tenth month. On the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains came into view. After forty days Noah opened the window that he had built into the ship. He sent out a raven; it flew back and forth waiting for the floodwaters to dry up. Then he sent a dove to check on the flood conditions, but it couldn't even find a place to perch—water still covered the Earth. Noah reached out and caught it, brought it back into the ship. He waited seven more days and sent out the dove again. It came back in the evening with a

freshly picked olive leaf in its beak. Noah knew that the flood was about finished. He waited another seven days and sent the dove out a third time. This time it didn't come back.

### **Children's hymn: We are a Rainbow**

### **A time for all God's children**

### **Today's Bible Story: Genesis 9: 8-17**

Then God spoke to Noah and his sons: "I'm setting up my covenant with you including your children who will come after you, along with everything alive around you—birds, farm animals, wild animals—that came out of the ship with you. I'm setting up my covenant with you that never again will everything living be destroyed by floodwaters; no, never again will a flood destroy the Earth." God continued, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and everything living around you and everyone living after you. I'm putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth. From now on, when I form a cloud over the Earth and the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll remember my covenant between me and you and everything living, that never again will floodwaters destroy all life. When the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll see it and remember the eternal covenant between God and everything living, every last living creature on Earth." And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I've set up between me and everything living on the Earth."

### **Sermon "...not just Leprechauns..."**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Benediction & The Grace**

### **Closing hymn: God of the sparrow**

#### **VU 229**

1

God of the sparrow God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

2

God of the earthquake God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save

3

God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

4

God of the hungry God of the sick  
God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life

5

God of the neighbour God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

6

God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home