



May 7, 2023

Communion Sunday

We Gather Together

<u>Prelude</u>	Jessica Robertson
<u>Welcome and Announcements</u>	Rev. Valerie Oden
<u>Introit</u>	<i>Hymn of Promise (Sleeth / Thompson)</i> RUC Handbells
<u>Call to Worship</u>	Rev. Tom Sawyer

Written by A. Smith and T. Burnett-Cole, UC General Council

One: God, we've come thirsty—thirsty for your Spirit.

All: Living water, bubble up from inside us and lead us toward deep spirituality.

One: God, we've come hungry—hungry for community.

All: Bread of life, feed our spirits, and lead us toward bold discipleship in community.

One: God, we've come searching—searching for wholeness.

All: Source of Life, guide us, and lead us toward daring justice.

One. God, feed, nourish, and prepare us to be your church in the world.

All: Amen.

*Opening Hymn *As We Gather at Your Table* VU 457

Children and youth are invited downstairs during this hymn. They will return to worship for Communion. There is also a family room through the door behind the piano where the service can be seen and heard.

Opening Prayer (in Unison)

**You are here, source of life, and we are grateful:
grateful for the springtime renewal of the earth;
grateful for our fellowship with one another;
grateful for your call upon our lives to live in kindness.**

**As we worship, may we be renewed by your grace,
comforted by your Spirit, compelled by your justice.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

<u>Scripture Reading</u>	John 14: 1-14
<u>Anthem</u>	<i>Arise, Shine! (Williams, Martin)</i>
<u>Reflection</u>	"The Invitation to Communion"
* <u>Hymn of Response</u>	<i>Deep in Our Hearts</i> MV 154
<u>Prayers of the People</u>	
<u>Silent, Personal Prayer</u>	

We Share in Communion

Communion Litany *From A Song of Faith, The United Church of Canada*

**Carrying a vision of creation healed and restored,
we welcome all in the name of Christ.**

**Invited to the table where none shall go hungry,
we gather as Christ's guests and friends.**

**In Holy Communion,
we are commissioned to feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
love as we have been loved.**

**The open table speaks of the shining promise of
barriers broken and creation healed. In the communion
meal, wine poured out and bread broken,
we remember Jesus.**

**We taste the mystery of God's great love for us,
and we are renewed in faith and hope.**

