

Port Wallis United Church

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Minister: *The Rev. Ivan Gregan*, BA, MDiv. Assisting Min: *The Rev. Blake Caldwell*, BTh.

Secretary: *Cheryl Settle* Custodian: *Judy Zinck*

Music: *Adam Johnson*, BA, M.Mus., Mus.Ed.

* Εν αρχη ην ο λόγος * In the beginning was the Word * Au commencement était la Parole * An toiseach bhia am Focal * Al principio, c'era colui che è "la Parola" *

Season of Creation 17 September 2023

** denotes standing if able*

Port Wallis United Church

**is an open Congregation that affirms you as a child of God,
made in God's Image, and loved by God.**

WELCOME / BIENVENUE / FAILTE / PJILA'DIK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

CALL TO WORSHIP *

We are surrounded by the forces of nature.

Wild and wonderful, fearful and frightening.

We are surrounded by places of calm.

Quiet and tranquil, peaceful and placid.

We are surrounded by the challenges of change.

Together we will face the future.

Amen! Let us worship God!

INTROIT (# 45 in More Voices) *

You are Holy, You show us the way,

You are Holy, You show us the way.

You are Holy, You show us the way.

You are Holy, You show us the way.

You show us, You show us, You show us the way,

You show us, You show us, You show us the way,

You show us, You show us, You show us the way,

You show us, You show us, You show us the way!

PRAYER OF APPROACH *

God of creation and re-creation,

who makes for us a pathway through this world,

leading us from what was to what can be,

send your Spirit as a guiding light into our lives

that we may find our way home to You

in Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

HYMN # 10 (MV) COME & SEEK THE WAYS OF WISDOM *

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O LORD, our God, You are our friend,
walking with us through life, challenging and chastising,
comforting and calming, yet never abandoning.

Teach us that love is revealed in honesty,
and strengthens us with courage

to confront and name what is fearful and painful.

In love, with love, and because of love,

look with mercy upon us as we confess our lives to You.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING *Singing ~ with tune at hymn # 95 MV. **

How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.

How deep the peace, the confidence
of those whose hearts are healed.

TEACHING TIME and PRAYER

In peace, dear God, I come to You Through Jesus Christ who makes me new

And while I run or play or rest, be with those whom I love best,

Guide me in your Holy Way, as You walk with me each day.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Testaments: Exodus 14: 19 - 31

Psalms 114

Joining creation in praise, Hallelujah, Mighty One!

We live in awe before You, Hallelujah! Mighty One!

When your people came out of Egypt,

when your children left an alien land,

The sea looked and fled,

the mighty Jordan ceased to flow.

When Judah was your sanctuary, and Israel your dominion,

the mountains leaped like rams,

the hills skipped like lambs.

Joining creation in praise, Hallelujah, Mighty One!

We live in awe before You, Hallelujah! Mighty One!

Why was it, O sea, that you fled?

Why, O Jordan, did you turn back?

Why, O mountains, did you leap like rams,

Why, O hills, did you skip like lambs?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,

Tremble at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Tremble before the One,

who turned the dry desert into a pool of water

Tremble before the One,

who brought springs of water from the hard dry rocks.

Joining creation in praise, Hallelujah, Mighty One!

We live in awe before You, Hallelujah! Mighty One!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and every shall be,

world without end, AMEN.

Epistle: Romans 14: 1 - 12

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18: 21 – 35 *

REFLECTION

OFFERTORY HYMN # 457 (VU) AS WE GATHER *

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION *(please follow on the Insert)*

HYMN # 650 (VU) O GOD OF BETHEL *

COMMISSIONING and BENEDECTION

EXTINGUISHING OF THE TABLE CANDLES

Silently mention someone's name and hold them in your heart.

CHORAL PARTING PRAYER *(MV # 214)*

May God's sheltering wings, Her gathering wings protect you,

May God's nurturing arms, His cradling arms, sustain you,

And hold you in Their love! And hold you in God's love.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY