

## **JASPER UNITED CHURCH**

**July 18, 2021 (Yr. B) 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Mission Statement

“Our mission is to worship God and deepen our Christian faith.  
We strive to seek justice, be an inclusive, caring and accepting community,  
and to be stewards of God’s world.”

*Worship Leader: Pam Jeck, Carol Vien*

*Musician: Carol Vien*

### **Prelude**

**Territorial Acknowledgement:** We wish to acknowledge the unceded land, Treaties 6 and 8, and the homeland of the Metis people. Jasper is a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, travelling route and home for many indigenous peoples, including the Beaver, Snake, Cree, Ojibway, Shuswap, and Stoney Nations and all other Indigenous people, who gather with us. **May the Spirit be with you.**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Celebrations and Remembrances**

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship:** Mothers & fathers, brothers & sisters, family & friends, **Jesus makes us one.** Young and old, liberal & conservative, gay & straight, **Jesus makes us one.** Soldier & pacifist, secular & religious, sinner & saint, **Jesus makes us one.** Let us worship God who calls us into unity. **Let us worship God.**

**Hymn: Let Us Build a House**

**MV 1**

#### **Gathering Prayer:**

**Gracious and loving God, we bring to you our prayers this day.** There is conflict all around us – **in the church, in the community, in the world.** We recognize the times & ways we put distance between ourselves & you, **between ourselves & others.** We recognize the times & ways we build walls that separate us from each other & you. **Yet we know that in the midst of all this we find your spirit** turning sadness into compassion, **mistrust into relationship,** and confusion into hope. **Guide us as we celebrate our unity this day & give voice to all our joys and concerns. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.**

**Words of Hope:** Remember, God promises steadfast love and reconciliation. God is not far away but close. God loves & forgives us.

### **Conversation Time: Every Child Matters**

#### **Scripture Readings:**

2 Samuel 7:1-14; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22

#### **Reflection: Building Without Walls**

**Hymn: Draw the Circle Wide**

**MV 145**

**Invitation to the Offering:** As we offer our gifts to Mission and Service and to the continued work of Jasper United Church, let us remember that this offering is an act of love. We give from what we have and as we are able, but always, we give in faith, hope and love.

#### **Offering Prayer:**

**Gracious God, accept these gifts that we offer on this day. By offering our time, concerns, love and resources we seek to participate in your work of care and compassion. Amen**

#### **Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn: Love Divine, All Love Excelling**

**VU 333**

#### **Blessing:**

As we leave worship today, let us go out into the world together, united in Christ’s love for each of us. As we return to our busy weekly routines and schedules, let us remember that our God is always with us – in ones and twos, in groups and crowds, in our homes and in creation. **Thanks be to God!**

**3-Fold Amen**

**VU 967**

#### **Postlude**

**Luke 18:16**

**But Jesus called the children to him and said,  
“Let the little children come to me,  
and do not hinder them,  
for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.**

**Mark 9:37**

**“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my  
name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does  
not welcome me but the one who sent me.”**

**Matthew 18:10**

**“See that you do not despise one of these little ones.  
For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see  
the face of my Father in heaven.**

**Matthew 18:6**

**“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who  
believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them  
to have a large millstone hung around their neck and  
to be drowned in the depths of the sea.**

**Matthew 18:14**

**In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing  
that any of these little ones should perish.**

**Psalms 127:3**

**Children are a heritage from the LORD,  
offspring a reward from him.**