

Thursday afternoon worship 2:30 pm

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.

With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Prayer:

God at the centre, you are the heartbeat that echoes throughout creation. You are the connection that links each of us with the other, the root that holds us to creation and the wind that allows us to soar to the heavens. As we gather here, as we work, laugh, worship and talk together over the next few days help us remember that you are the reason we are here. We are searching for ways to be your church, to live out the justice and compassion that was at the centre of Jesus' ministry. As we work together may we speak your wisdom, remembering that we are a community of believers, not only linked to each other but with the world, deeply and irrevocably connected. May your heartbeat, your presence be heard in this place, in and through each one of us. Through all that we do together here in Estevan, and with all the earth we will sing your praises. Bless all that we do. Amen and amen

Video

Ritual of letting go

We have come to this place from many places all over this province. We come from many different things...work, ministry, home, play. No matter where we have come from, and what we do outside of these walls, we each and every one of us carry things in our hearts and minds that keep us from being fully present in this place. For us to truly be here, to be present not only to the work that needs to be done, but to also be present to one another as a community of the United Church in Saskatchewan, for friends, that is what we are first and foremost ---a community. Although you may

not know those sitting at the table with you right now, this is a person who is part of our family. We are called to be a people who welcomes and engages. In order to do that with integrity, we need to let go, at least for a few days, of those things that pull us away, that pull our attention. In front of you are pieces of paper, and I am hoping that you have a pen somewhere. Christa and I invite you to take a few moments to write down those things that you would consider a burden. It could be the grocery shopping or the birthday shopping that you have waiting for you, or it could be an illness that you or a person you know is struggling through. You will not have to share these, they are yours alone. Yours and God's. When you have finished, simply fold them and place them in the bowls that are in the center of the table. We will gather them up later, removing them from the center of our attention.

Song:

#174 Soil of God, You and I

Blessing

Thursday evening Memorial Service

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Gathering Statement:

[As we have already heard this afternoon] We gather here tonight in Estevan as representatives of the United Church of Canada in Saskatchewan - we come from all across the province to do the work of our church, connect with one another, and celebrate the fact that God is alive and active among us. Some of us traveled a great distance to be here and for some of us this is home - we have been welcomed and begun to settle in. Many of us have been to these meetings before, so we may have greeted old friends and perhaps begun to make new ones as we make this space our own. At this time we are going to pause for a few minutes to reflect on what has changed since the last time the whole conference gathered: the faces that are no longer with us at these tables, the friends whose life circumstances have changed, the congregations that have closed. Life in this world is ever changing, as we spend this time reflecting and remembering, may we know that God is here with us - inviting us to remember those who are gone, encouraging us to hold one another in prayer, and surrounding us with the one thing that never changes: God's deep and abiding love for each one of us. Let us worship together.

Gathering Prayer:

These words of prayer come from Walter Bruggeman's book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted to Earth*.

This prayer is called *The Din Undoes Us*

Our lives are occupied territory....

**Occupied by a cacophony of voices,
And the din undoes us**

In the daytime we have no time to listen,

**Beset as we are by anxiety and goals
And assignments and work,**

And in the night the voices are so confusing

We can hardly sort out what could possibly be your voice

From the voice of our mothers and our fathers

And our best friends and our pet projects,

Because they all sound so much like you.

We are people over whom that word SHEMA has been written.

We are listeners, but we do not listen well.

So we bid you, by the time the sun goes down today

Or by the time the sun comes up tomorrow,

By night or by day,

That you will speak in ways that we can hear

Out beyond ourselves.

It is your speech to us that carries us where we have never been,

And it is your speech to us that is our only hope.

So give us ears. Amen.

Hymn: MV# 12 Come Touch Our Hearts

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,

From failing embers build a blazing fire;

Love strong enough to overturn injustice,

To seek a world more gracious,

come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls

That we may know and love you

Your quiet presence all our fears dispel;

Create a space for Spirit to grow in us,

Let life and beauty fill us.

Come, touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds
And teach us how to reason,
Set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
Help us to open doors of understanding
To welcome truth and wisdom,
Come, touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in
The moments we are fragile
And in our weakness your great strength reveal;
That we may rise to follow and to serve,
Steady now our nerve,
Come, touch and bless our wills.

Come touch us now,
This people who are gathered
To break the bread and share the cup of peace;
That we may love you with our heart, our soul
Our mind, our strength, our all,
Come, touch us with your grace.

Scripture reflection:

Intro: At some point in our lives we all face death - it is one of the few things all human beings of all races and all cultures have in common. Since humans started writing words down, poets and authors have been searching for words to describe the human experience of facing loss and change and the hope we hold for those who continue to live, tonight we hear from some of those writers - their words have been preserved in scripture and in poetry. May we hear their wisdom and find comfort in their words.

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to harvest;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance...
~ Ecclesiastes 3

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...
though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will not fear,
for thou art with me,
thy rod and thy staff,
they comfort me...
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
from this day forth and forevermore. - Psalm 23

...if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:...
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.
~ 19th Century poet, Christina Rossetti

As a mother comforts her child,
so you comfort us, O God;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem;
as a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord is compassionate and merciful.
~ Psalm 103 and Isaiah 66

Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?" ~ John 14

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there, I do not sleep
I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glints on snow
I am the sun on ripened grain
I am the gentle autumn rain
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled light
I am the soft star that shines at night
Do not stand at my grave and cry
I am not there; I did not die.

~ author unknown

Jesus said: "so you have pain now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you." ~ John 16

They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

~ Revelation 7

My
Beloved said,

“My name is not complete without
yours.”

I thought,
How could a human’s worth ever be such?

And God, knowing all our thoughts - and all our
thoughts are innocent steps on the path -
then addressed my
heart,

God revealed
a sublime truth to the world,
when He
sang,

“I am made whole by your life. Each soul,
each soul completes
me.”

~14th century Persian Poet, Hafiz

Memorial Powerpoint Laying of the Stole

Hymn: VU#494 Those Hearts We Have Treasured

Those hearts that we have treasured,
those lives that we have shared,
those loves that walked beside us,
those friends for whom we’ve cared,
 their blessing rests upon us,
 their life is memory,
 their suffering is over,
 their spirits are set free.

They still give hope and comfort,

they did not lose the fight,
they showed us truth and goodness,
they shine into our night.

Remember days of gladness;
remember times of joy;
remember all the moments
that grief can not destroy.

From hearts that we have treasured,
from lives that we have shared,
from loves that walked beside us,
from friends for whom we've cared,
we've learned to treasure kindness,
we've learned that grace provides,
we've learned to be together,
we've learned that love abides

Prayer:

In the rising of the sun and in its going down

We remember them.

In the glowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

We remember them.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,

We remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer

We remember them.

In the rustling leaves and in the beauty of autumn,

We remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,

We remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength,

We remember them.

When we are lost, and sick at heart.

We remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share,

We remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live,

**For they are now a part of us,
As we remember them.
Amen.**

Hymn: MV#144

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives
as in a dream unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth
like a healing stream

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil
to coax a new creation
yearning for an end to want and need
like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel
in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war
like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts
to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

Blessing

Friday morning worship 9:00 am

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Prayer

Video: Charter of Compassion

Scripture: Good Samaritan and Golden Rule

Jesus was often surrounded by crowds of people, always wanting something from him - healing, assistance, wisdom. One of the things Jesus taught has become known as the Golden Rule - do to others as you would have them do to you. We can imagine that as Jesus preached and taught up and down the Galilean countryside that in the moments when Jesus challenged his followers to summarize what he taught that they might have replied as a group.

And the crowd said,

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

One day a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

And the crowd said:

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Jesus said to the lawyer, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

And the crowd said:

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

The lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

And the crowd said:

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Then Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.

And the crowd said:

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

And the crowd said,

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Jesus continued, "So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

And the crowd said,

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

But, Jesus told the crowd, a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said,

'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

And the crowd said,

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

The lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

And the crowd said,

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Invitation to consider compassion through the day

Today we invite you to think about compassion. Who are the people in your world, your community, your life who need compassion? Is it you? Are you willing to accept it? Perhaps you need to offer compassion to someone else. Are you willing to give it? Imagine what could happen in this world if, instead of treating each other with mistrust, anger, or indifference, we all treated each other with compassion. Imagine what could happen if we wrote the golden rule on our hearts and lived it in our lives. Imagine if we all, even just once a day, did to others as we would have them do to us.

Song: Beauty for Brokenness

Blessing for the day

Friday afternoon worship 5:35 pm

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Prayer:

The Buddha is attributed with saying:
The thought manifests as the word;
The word manifests as the deed;
The deed develops into habit;
And habit hardens into character.
So watch the thought and its ways with care,
And let it spring from love
Born out of concern for all beings.

Keeping these words in our hearts and minds, let us pray...
God of our thoughts and of our words,
As we gather in this place together,
Sit with us.

Be with us as one who journeys with us.
**May the thoughts and words we have today
Manifest our desire to be compassionate co-habitants in this world.
Help us to know that the ripples of our actions
Reach beyond the walls of this place
And have a lasting effect on the world around us.**
May what we think, say and promise to do here
Be reflections of your desire for the whole of creation
May what we do here,
Spring from a love
Born out of concern, compassion and hope for all beings.
Amen and amen.

Scripture: Cotton Patch Gospel retelling

Good Samaritan and the Golden Rule from Cotton Patch Gospel

We know and have heard the story of the Good Samaritan and we can imagine living by the Golden Rule - even when it's a great challenge. But the reality is that Priests, Levites, and Samaritans are very far away from 21st Century Canadian society. So we are going to read this story again, using the words of Clarence Jordan in the Cotton Patch Gospel - a re-telling of Luke's gospel that was for an illiterate class of people for whom Israel was so far away as to seem like an unimaginable place.

Along with Clarence Jordan, we can imagine that as Jesus preached and taught up and down the highways and by-ways of Georgia that when Jesus challenged his followers to tell him what they learned the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

One day a teacher of an adult Bible class got up and tested him with this question: "Doctor, what does one do to be saved?"

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

Jesus replied, "What does the Bible say? How do you interpret it?"

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

The teacher answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your physical strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself." "That is correct," answered Jesus. "Make a habit of this and you'll be saved."

But the Sunday school teacher, trying to save face, asked, "But . . . er . . . but . . . just who is my neighbor?"

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

Then Jesus laid into him and said, "A man was going from Atlanta to Albany and some gangsters held him up. When they had robbed him of his wallet and brand-new suit, they beat him up and drove off in his car, leaving him unconscious on the shoulder of the highway.

"Now it just so happened that a white preacher was going down that same highway. When he saw the fellow, he stepped on the gas and went scooting by.

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

"Shortly afterwards a white Gospel song leader came down the road, and when he saw what had happened, he too stepped on the gas.

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

"Then a black man traveling that way came upon the fellow, and what he saw moved him to tears. He stopped and bound up his wounds as best he could, drew some water from his water-jug to wipe away the blood and then laid him on the back seat. He drove on into Albany and took him to the hospital and said to the nurse, 'You all take good care of this white man I found on the highway. Here's the only two dollars I got, but you all keep account of what he owes, and if he can't pay it, I'll settle up with you when I make a pay-day.' "Now if you had been the man held up by the gangsters, which of these three--the white preacher, the white song leader, or the black man--would you consider to have been your neighbor?"

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

The teacher of the adult Bible class said, "Why, of course, the nig--I mean, er . . . well, er . . . the one who treated me kindly."

Jesus said, "Well, then, you get going and start living like that!"

And the crowd said,

Just as you want people to act towards you, you act the same way towards them.

Table Group:

I know that we have lots of time to talk together as table groups. But I am going to encourage you to take some more time together to talk. But instead of talking about business and such, I want you take a moment to reflect. We asked you in the morning to take some time during the day to think about images of compassion. In the next five or six minutes I would like it if you would share those moments with your table mates. Share moments of compassion that you have witnessed or participated in. In doing this, I remind you that the love that we are called to share with the world, is rooted in the compassion we offer to others, known and unknown. While you are talking, images will be on the screen. If you are done talking or if you need a moment to think, please feel free to watch.

PPT Compassion

Hymn: MV #212 (to pull folks back ...start quietly to get attention and slowly build -sing several times)

Reading: Matthew 25: 30-31

³¹⁻³³ "When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

³⁴⁻³⁶ "Then he will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by God! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,

I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.'

³⁷⁻⁴⁰ "Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Jesus, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then he will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me – you did it to me.'

Grace for supper

VU#551 For Food in a World

Saturday Morning Worship (9:10 am)

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Prayer: Christa

Holy Mystery,

each one of us is a unique creation
of your heart -
loved for our diversity
as a human family.

Encourage us to treat one another
with dignity, respect, and love
and help us follow in your way.

We pray in Christ's name.

Amen.

Book: God's Dream (reading back and forth)

One: Dear Child of God,

What do you dream about in your loveliest of dreams?

Two: Do you dream about flying high or rainbows reaching across the sky?

One: Do you dream about being free to do what your heart desires?

Two: Or about being treated like a full person no matter how young you
might be?

One: Do you know what God dreams about?

Two: If you close your eyes and look with your heart, I am sure, dear child,
that you will find out.

One: God dreams about people sharing.

Two: God dreams about people caring.

One: God dreams that we reach out and hold on another's hands and play one another's games and laugh with one another's hearts.

Two: But God does not force us to be friends or to love one another.

One: Dear Child of God, it does happen that we get angry and hurt one another.

Two: Soon we start to feel sad and so very alone.

One: Sometimes we cry, and God cries with us.

Two: But when we say we're sorry and forgive one another, we wipe away our tears and God's tears, too.

One: Each of us carries a piece of God's heart within us.

Two: And when we love one another, the pieces of God's heart are made whole.

One: God dreams that every one of us will see that we are all brothers and sisters - yes, even you and me - even if we have different mommies and daddies or live in different faraway lands.

Two: Even if we speak different languages or have different ways of talking to God. Even if we have different eyes or different skin.

One: Even if you are taller and I am smaller. Even if your nose is little and mine is large.

Two: Dear Child of God, do you know how to make God's dream come true? It is really quite easy.

One: As easy as sharing, loving, caring.

Two: As easy as holding, playing, laughing.

One: As easy as knowing we are family because we are all God's children.

Two: Will you help God's dream come true? Let me tell you a secret...

One: God smiles like a rainbow when you do.

Activity: Writing names on papers (Tricia)

Sing MV#169 When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

Blessing

Saturday Afternoon Worship (5:20 pm)

Call to worship: heartbeat-drum-chant

Chant: MV 61 I Praise You, O God

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Repeat

Prayer:

Spirit God, Loving God, Present God,
We praise you, with all of our hearts.

**May your Spirit flow in and around us
As we move from this place,
As start our journeys towards home.**

May your wisdom remind us of our call to be your people,
And your call to be source of love and compassion in the world.

**As we worship together in this moment,
Be with us, fill us, and renew us.
So that we can fully be your people
In our homes, in our churches and in the world.**

May your Spirit carry us forth,
In worship, in life and in relationship,
With you and with each other.
Amen and amen.

Scripture: Retelling of Genesis 1

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a mighty wind swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw the light.

And it was good.

God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning,

The first day.

God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters. So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. God called the dome Sky.

And it was good.

There was evening and there was morning,

The second day.

God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters Seas.

And it was good.

Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." It was so.

And it was good.

There was evening and there was morning,

The third day.

God said, "Let there be light in the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and for years and let them shine light upon the earth. It was so.

And it was good.

There was evening and there was morning.

The fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let the birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, and every winged bird of every kind.

And it was good.

There was evening and there was morning.

The fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals." It was so.

And it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness, and let them be stewards of all the earth. So God created humankind in his image, male and female he created them. It was so.

And it was good.

There was evening and there was morning,

The sixth day.

Thus the heavens and earth were finished. And on the seventh day God finished the work and rested. God blessed the seventh day and made it sacred, because on it God rested from all the work that had been done. It was so.

And it was good.

It was very good.

Reflection

The hearing of Genesis 1 brings us full circle to opening worship, to that worship where we heard the voices of those astronauts reading the same passage from the King James Bible. At that worship we aimed to remind all of us of this one planet that we inhabit, shared with all other life. It started our journey in compassion and exploring what that means for us. We are a people called by God to care for the other, that our love and our justice be rooted in the compassion that we experience daily and in the compassion that was modeled by Jesus in his ministry.

One of the true gifts of this global community is the diversity of talents, skills, personalities, and ideals. Diversity is a gift, wouldn't you say? Nowhere in the scripture does God stop after creating one sea creature, one land dweller, one plant....God creates all kinds. And revels in it. All the diversity is good, great even. And we need to give thanks for that diversity that surrounds us and fills our days with joy.

I believe that one of the pieces of being a compassionate people is to recognize this gift of diversity. Each one of us here, in this place, and in the world that surrounds is wonderfully made –each of us different from the other, and yet we are bound together in our call to care. And we are called by God to care not just for ourselves but for one another, regardless of who or where or what. This kind of care, compassion, can be easy –a hug, simply sitting with a person, a card, a meal...And it can be very, very hard. It can be a people needing to find words of apology, the granting of forgiveness to someone hard to forgive, the reaching out of a hand to those we would normally turn away from. Hard, hard things to be sure. And we don't just do these hard things with those outside...with the others.

We do this with our own community. This community...take a look around you. Look at your tablemates, look at the tables around you....this is your community. We are a people bound to each other by our faith in God, our quest for justice, and the living out of God's greatest desires for this world. If we are going to be able to fully live in the diversity, and to offer the justice that is so integral to our ethos, then we need to start with

each other. We need to learn how to offer compassion and caring to each other, in this community before we can move to world beyond.

I want you to take a moment to look at the rainbow we've created from the pieces of paper you wrote your names on. Individually, those pieces of paper were not much. Just coloured paper with markings on it. Yet, when we put them together we find that they create something that holds meaning, deep meaning for us. It reflects the fact that we as individuals can join together to create something greater. Something that reminds us of God's promise to always be with us, to always journey with us.

If we treated ourselves with compassion, we could then move out beyond ourselves to this community, and finally to the wider world. It is what drives our want to apologize and seek right relations with our first nations siblings, it what drives our need to be in right relationship with all of creation. In this we honour the gift of diversity by honouring the person for their place in the world, rather for what they are or are not. And we give thanks for this. Amen and Amen.

Sing: MV #165

Activity:

During the weekend, we've had people taking photographs of the gathered community while we have worked, sung, ate and played together. I am going to invite you to take some time now, to reflect on the weekend as you watch these images. On the tables you will notice the bowls have returned, but this time instead of being filled with the things you needed to let go of to be fully present in this place, Christa and I invite you write down those things that you will take away from this place. It could be a new song you learned, a name of a new connection, thoughts about what the past few days have meant to you, how your ministry might be shaped by what you have learned here. It could be anything thing or number of things you want to take home with you... Write them down on the paper, tuck it away in your notebook or safe place, and revisit it when you get

back to your home. May what you take away from here nourish and sustain you, in life, in ministry and in all that you do.

True Colours Slide show

Blessing/Sending Forth

Sing: VU#298 When you Walk from Here