



GRACE UNITED CHURCH
Eleventh After Pentecost
Aug 9th, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.
Worship Leader: Keith Mayers LLWL
Guest Organist/Pianist: Edwin Baah Gyabeng
Presider: Portia Mensah-Bonsu

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Arr. Paul Manz

**Welcome, Announcements
& Traditional Land Acknowledgment** Portia Mensah-Bonsu

Gathering song: Psalm 91- (V1 and chorus only) VU #808

Lighting the Christ Candle Portia Mensah-Bonsu

One: Oh, love that will not let us go

All: We rest ourselves in You!

One: The light of the world, brightly beaming

All: Beacon in the hearts of all created

One: Where the Spirit of God abides

All: Making each heart a light along the world's shore.

Opening Prayer Portia Mensah-Bonsu

Creator God, who has encompassed us with a cloud of great witnesses. A diverse collection of people called to serve, fulfilling the Great Commission of the gospel. Inspire us by Your divine Spirit, who calls, sanctifies, baptizes, readies, justifies and equips us. Move in our hearts to serve You in full commitment, as we desire Your will in our lives. Be pleased to come and bless us now, through Christ our Redeemer we pray. Amen.

Praise and Worship 1: Led by Grace Choir
Jesus Calls Us VU #562

Video: Biblical Background to Interculturalism
(United Church of Canada Resources)

Passing of Peace

One: Pentecost reminds us of the diversity of God given gifts to the church in people, talents, resources and abilities that constrain us through Christ's love. Many from different cultures, languages and backgrounds were gathered at Pentecost, receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, extend the peace of Christ, as people and cultures expressed in one body of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

Sung during sharing of Peace: Come All Ye People MV #2

TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:22–33 NIV Norma Ferguson
One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
All: Thanks be to God!

Children's Moment: Take Heart, do Not Be Afraid! Keith Mayers
Song: With All I Am Reuben Morgan
Led by Shemagrace Madriaga and family
Children leave for Sunday School

Sermon: Sailors, In the Shelter of God's Arms Keith Mayers LLWL

TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

Offering Invitation

Offertory/Special Music: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Arr. Paul Manz as "God of Grace"
Guest Musician-Samuel Owusu (Electric Piano) / Edwin (Organ)

Offering Response: We Give You but Your Own VU #542

Offertory Prayer

One: Bountiful God, giver of all things bright and good, all things lovely, all things worthy, all things of good report, receive our offering. Prune our dead leaves. Trim our barren branches that we may bear much fruit. Equip us as vessels of giving; all ourselves to You. That in so offering we become treasured people of the glorious kingdom.

All: Amen.

Moment for Testimonies: *(Stories of God's faithfulness in the lives of believers)*

Portia Mensah-Bonsu
Shemagrace Madriaga

Prayer Prelude: Lord Have Mercy VU #946

Invitation to Confession

All: God of all creation. You created us in Your image and likeness And saw it as good. You taught us to welcome the stranger who sojourns among us. You implored the apostles to spread the gospel to gentiles far and wide, calling for repentance and baptism in the Holy Spirit. Granting diversity of gifts, talents and sufficiency in the church. Forgive our mindless ways, wandering at times from the mission of faith. We repent of yielding to our own understanding, asking for a refreshing among us. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may hear the Shepherd's voice, Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

One: We are forgiven people, saved by faith alone in Christ, not in any work we do, lest any should boast. Christ the lamb cleanses us and redeems the world. Thanks be to God.

All: Amen.

Prayers of the People

Portia Mensah-Bonsu

One: God of love. Remember the world and regions of conflict. Threats of new wars and ongoing battles that continue to slay innocent civilians. We pray for peacemakers, leaders and believers in Christ to spread the message of the gospel of peace, for Your Advent is at hand.

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

One: We intercede for Canada. A land of plenty, vast resources and flowing goods. We lament over the lack of compassion for strangers, migrants and even refugees. We ask for bowels of compassion. Reception for many coming to Christ by faith and a hospitality to demonstrate the love of Christ at the hands of believers.

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

One: We pray for leaders at every level of government. For wisdom and understanding. Compassion for others. A country of peacemakers and seekers of good for all created. We ask for policies that help the poor, sick and marginalized. To spread aid to those in desperate need. To provide support for food, housing and employment with dignity for all.

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

One: We pray for the churches of Brampton. We offer up our churches facing decline. For turning our thoughts and ways to Yours. For seeking Your will in a city desperate for Your gospel. We turn our strategies to You, that it may please You to unite churches as one mind in Christ. That this bride, the church may be prepared for Your pleasure.

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

One: Remember those of the body of Christ that are ailing, aged, afraid, alone, mourning, overwhelmed, overworked, underpaid, unemployed. We lift families, praying for harmony among parents, children and generations of differences. For homes, communities and influence to remain godly. We pray for saints to seek Christ and pursue their calling of faith in all that they do. Bless us body, mind and spirit.

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

One: Gracious God, we offer our silent petitions of our hearts...

(moment of silence observed)

All: Merciful God. Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer (said):

Keith Mayers

Praise and Worship 2: Led by Grace Choir

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

VU #658

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD

Commissioning

Keith Mayers

Firmly anchor your spirits in Christ. Looking to God the beginner and perfecter of our faith. Do not be afraid of the howls of the storm, the raging seas of life, or the mighty wind of destruction. Jesus is here, saying, 'It is I'. We could press on, sail on and keep on to glorious eternity with Christ. We abide in the shelter of God's arms. Praise be unto God forevermore!

Blessing (Numbers 6: 24-26)

May God bless you and keep you.

**May God's face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.**

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Postlude: Zadok the Priest - Part 1 only

G.F Handel
