

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Sunday, September 15th, 2019

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

**i indicates the community stands, as able

PRELUDE *Lord Jesus, Be Present Now* J. S. Bach

WELCOME *Affirming, Caring, Growing Spiritually, Reaching Out*

Please rise to sing:

MORE VOICES **135 *Called by Earth and Sky*

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

We awake to the presence of God today!

Let us attend to God's word: in Scripture, among us, and within us.

Come, let us worship the Creator in joy and thanksgiving. Let us pray:

Loving God, the one who searches for us always,

find us this morning, we pray.

Find our fears and hold us in the night.

Find our sorrows and comfort us in the light.

Find our anger and soothe us in your embrace.

Find our joy and dance with us to the drum.

Find our celebration and sing us into harmony. Amen

(by Gord Dunbar, Kincardine United Church)

**PEACE GREETING ...Michael Brooks

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(The Community exchanges words and signs of peace;

Children and youth may proceed to programs)

COMMUNITY NEWS

MORE VOICES **14** *Where Two or Three Are Gathered*

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

VOICES UNITED **959** *(sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil

for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

SEEKING TO GROW SPIRITUALLY

FIRST BIBLE READING Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28 (page 781, OT)
...Susan Posgate

ANTHEM *Like as the Hart* H. Willan

**GOSPEL BIBLE READING Luke 15: 1-10 (page 80, NT)
For the Word of God in Scripture, among us, and within us.

Thanks be to God.

VOICES UNITED **266 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound!*

SERMON "THE JOY OF FINDING"

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING IN CARE

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *O How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings* E. Daley

VOICES UNITED **541
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REACHING OUT IN LOVE

VOICES UNITED **312 *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

**COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Toccata on "Amazing Grace"* J. C. Pardini

A BOAT

*Evening comes on and the hills thicken;
red and yellow bleaching out of the leaves.
The chill pines grow their shadows.*

*Below them the water stills itself,
a sunset shivering in it.
One more going down to join the others.*

Now the lake expands and closes in, both.

*The blackness that keeps itself
under the surface in daytime
emerges from it like mist or as mist.*

*Distance vanishes, the absence
of distance pushes against the eyes.*

*There is no seeing the lake,
only the outlines of the hills
which are almost identical,*

*familiar to me as sleep,
shores unfolding upon shores
in their contours of slowed breathing.*

*It is touch I go by,
the boat like a hand feeling through shoals and among dead trees,
over the boulders lifting unseen,
layer on layer of drowned time falling away.*

This is how I learned to steer through darkness by no stars.

To be lost is only a failure of memory.

-Margaret Atwood



PORT NELSON
United Church