

Nashwaaksis United Church

July Bulletin - Journeying through the Book of Ruth

Liturgical Colour: Green

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Prayer Requests

Lighting The Christ Candle

Gathering Music: There is Room For All MV 62

**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
there is room for all sheltered in God's love.**

And I rejoice and sing, "My Refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

There is room for all, there is room for all.

Greeting (Responsive):

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Acknowledgement of Place

Call to Worship (Responsive):

Here in this place, there are no foreigners, no come-from-aways, no strangers

for all are welcome in this holy space, this sacred time.

Here in this worship, in this community, there is only acceptance,

for love is the language of faith.

Here in our lives, there are no divisions,

for God dwells in each of us.

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

Opening Prayer

Hymn:

Sunday July 7 - Sisters Let Us Walk Together

MV 179

Sunday July 14 - Each Blade of Grass

MV 37

Sunday July 21 - Great is thy Faithfulness

VU 288

Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):

God of compassion, of community, of connection, we come to you because our lives are filled with broken relationships. We admit that there are times when we could have offered love, but didn't because we were afraid that it would hurt too much. We could have mended bridges of trust, but didn't because we got used to holding a grudge. We could have given of ourselves to lift up another who has fallen, but didn't because we were afraid it would cost too much. Forgive us for holding back. Forgive us the pain we have caused, or allowed because of our action or inaction. Forgive us, yes, but redirect us so that we might respond as Ruth did, with love and without fear. Work in us, and remind us of the boundless nature of love and grace. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ, our guide. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love (Responsive):

Ruth shows us the power of love. She would not - could not - leave Naomi. God's love for us is even stronger, and God clings to us when we might lose our way.

Thanks be to God for such a love as this.

A New Creed (Unison) - VU 918

Music Ministry

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

SEEKING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination (Unison):

Gracious God, in the gleanings of our lives, may we find Your abundant grace, as Ruth found favor in the fields of Boaz. In the bonds of loyalty and love, may we be steadfast, as Ruth remained faithful to Naomi, her guide and kin. In the journey from emptiness to fullness, may we trust the way you have placed at our feet, as Ruth discovered blessing beyond her dreams. Illuminate our hearts with the light of Your wisdom, that we may glean from the scriptures, and walk in faithfulness and courage, guided by Your grace, now and forevermore.

AMEN

Reading:*Sunday July 7 - Matthew 5:3-9 & Ruth 1:1-22**Sunday July 14 - Luke 6:36-38 & Ruth 2:1-23**Sunday July 21 - Luke 1:46-55 & Ruth 4:1-22*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Hymn:***Sunday July 7 - Jesus Loves Me*

VU 365

Sunday July 14 - For the Fruit of All Creation

VU 227

Sunday July 21 - Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands

MV 173

Message:*Sunday July 7 - Belonging: A Stranger in a Strange Land**Sunday July 14 - Blessing: Hope And Coincidence**Sunday July 21 - Bounty: From Famine to Abundance***RESPONDING TO WITH PRAISE****Hymn:***Sunday July 7 - We Are Pilgrims*

VU 595

Sunday July 14 - Praise to the Lord

VU 220

Sunday July 21 - It's a Song of Praise

MV 30

Mission & Service Story**Dedication Verse:** We Give You But Your Own

VU 542

**We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully.**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

We offer to you, O God, all that we are. We offer our heart; fill it with your love. We offer our arms; embrace a world in need of healing. We offer our gifts; use them to build your kingdom. Bless all that we are and all that we bring. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of our brother and companion on the way, Jesus Christ. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY****Hymn:***Sunday July 7 - Love Divine*

VU 333

Sunday July 14 - God Be With You Till We Meet Again

VU 422

Sunday July 21 - Let All Things Now Living

VU 242

Commissioning & Benediction (Responsive):

Though we part ways, we carry with us a call to embrace a world in need.

**We will walk this road with those whom God sends our way.
Their pain will be our pain;
their joy, our joy.**

As you have been blessed, go now and be a blessing to others.

**We live and serve in devotion to God,
in partnership with Christ,
inspired by the Holy Spirit.**

Go now in peace.

Choral Closing: Wherever You May Go (vs 2)

MV 216

Refrain:

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,
And your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow:
For I will be faithful, loyal and true.**

**From beginning to the end
I will always be your friend,
When you need me, I'll be there,
You can trust my faithful care. R**

Closing Music

The order of service will remain the same from week to week, though the music and readings will change. Also, July 7th includes a baptism!