

Nashwaaksis United Church

September 27, 2026 - Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Acknowledgement of Place

Lighting the Christ Candle

Introit: *Gather us In* MV 7 X2
Gather us in, ground us in You.
Gather us in, ground us in You.
Gather us in, Gather us in,
ground us, ground us in You.

Greeting

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.

Celebrations & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

We come before God as people seeking to live faithfully.

We come as we are, trusting that God knows us and loves us.

When the world tells us that success is what matters, God calls us to faithfulness.

When no one is watching, may we remember whose people we are.

When the easy choice and the right choice are not the same, God gives us courage to choose what is good.

May our hearts be shaped by and reflect God's love.

Let us worship the God who sees us completely, and who is with us wherever we go.

We worship God with open hearts and willing spirits.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* VU 333

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):

Merciful God, you know the truth of our lives, the good we have done and the harm we have caused, the courage we have shown and the moments when we have taken the easier path. Forgive us for the times we have failed to live according to our convictions. Forgive the words spoken in anger, the kindness withheld, the truth avoided. Where we have wounded others, lead us toward reconciliation. Where we have been wounded, free us from bitterness. Where we have fallen short, give us grace to begin again. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew within us faithful spirits. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

Proclaiming Our Faith Together: *A New Creed* VU 918

Ministry of Music: *True Faith Needs No Defence* MV 139

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Readings:

Matt 5:11-12

Genesis 39:1-23

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

When No One Is Watching

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* VU 684

How Can I Give?

- 1) If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to Nashwaaksis United Church by sending the funds to donations@nashwaaksisunited.ca.
- 2) You can go to www.CanadaHelps.org and search for Nashwaaksis United Church. We are the first one on the list when searching for Nashwaaksis United Church. You can confirm it is us by checking the address.
- 3) You can reach out to Judy and sign up for a or increase your pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can make changes to this at any time, just reach out to the office.
- 4) Lastly you can give here in person by dropping your donation into the offering plate at the doors when you come in or when you leave following the worship. And if you don't have an envelope, some have been placed in the pews for your convenience.

Dedication Verse: *Grant us God* *VU 540*
Grant us God the grace of giving with a spirit large and free
That ourselves and all our living, we may offer faithfully.

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Gracious and Generous God, we offer our gifts to you, knowing that all we have and all we are comes from your abundance. Receive what we bring and use our gifts to bring hope where there is despair, welcome where there is loneliness, justice where there is injustice, and compassion where there is need. Receive us also, O God. Take our time, our gifts, our choices, and shape us into instruments of your love. We offer ourselves and our gifts in the name of Christ, who calls us to live faithfully and love generously. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *God of the Sparrow* *VU 229*

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

We have heard God's Word. Now we go to live it.

We go with courage to do what is right.

When our choices are unseen, may we still choose faithfulness.

When doing what is right is difficult, may we not lose heart.

When others misunderstand us, may we respond with grace rather than bitterness.

When we are tempted to take the easier path, may we remember who we are and whose we are.

Benediction

Choral Closing: *Go To The World* *VU 420 (vs 4)*
Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!'
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Closing Music