

Lyrics and Prayers: Sunday, May 14, 2023

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Ralph Connor Memorial United Church  
Worshipping in Banff

**Opening Hymn: Voices United #395**  
**“ Part of the Family ”**  
***( Verses 1, 2 & 4 )***

*~ James K. Manley ~*

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*Children may go to Kids' Connection and Toddler Care during the singing of this hymn. They will return to the sanctuary before the anthem.*

**CHORUS:**

*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.*

*We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

1. You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family.  
*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

2. God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family.  
*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.*  
*We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

4. There's rest for the weary  
and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy,  
and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family.  
*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.*  
*We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.    -end-*

# Opening Prayer *(responsive)*

God, creator of us all, we gather to worship you.

We come as individuals, we come in family units, we come as neighbours and friends.

## Opening Prayer *(responsive, continued)*

We come here where we are known by name,  
welcomed with all our fragilities and strengths.

We gather with kindred spirits who long to  
live faithful to your calling.

Guide us, inspire us, challenge us, comfort us,  
and nurture us in this time of worship  
enabled by you to return to our daily lives,  
ready to engage fully with all of your creation.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



**Preparing to Hear the Word:**

*a time of quiet reflection*

**Chant: (seated) More Voices #90**

**“Don’t Be Afraid”**

*~John Bell and Graham Maule, 1995~*

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**Don't be afraid.**

**My love is stronger,  
my love is stronger than your fear.**

**Don't be afraid.**

**My love is stronger  
and I have promised,  
promised to be always near. (repeat)**

# Hymn: Voices United #268

## “Bring Many Names”

*~Brian Wren – Carlton R. Young~*

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**1. Bring many names,  
beautiful and good,  
celebrate, in parable and story,  
holiness in glory, living, loving God.  
Hail and hosanna! Bring many names!**

**2. Strong mother God,  
working night and day,  
planning all the wonders of creation,  
setting each equation, genius at play:  
Hail and hosanna, strong mother God!**

**3. Warm father God,  
hugging every child,  
feeling all the strains of human living,  
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:  
Hail and hosanna, warm father God!**

4. Old, aching God,  
grey with endless care,  
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,  
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:  
Hail and hosanna, old aching God!

5. Young, growing God,  
eager, on the move,  
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,  
crying out for justice, giving all you have:  
Hail and hosanna, young, growing God!



6. Great, living God,  
never fully known,  
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
Hail and hosanna, great, living God!

-end-

# Heritage Offertory Hymn: VU 560

**“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”**

(verses 1 & 4)

*~Washington Gladden – Henry Percy Smith~*

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1. O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
teach me thy secret, help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

4. In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.

-end-

## Offertory Prayer (*unison*)

Creator God, you have blessed our lives with relationships that both inspire and challenge. We offer these gifts so that we might continue to build relationships with one another and with your whole creation. Bless these gifts that they may bring wholeness and life abundance to all your people. In Christ we pray. Amen.

# Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Beloved, in whom is heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth,  
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who  
trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

# Closing Hymn: Voices United #566

## “Would You Bless Our Homes and Families”

*~Words: Walter Farquharson 1974 - Music: Ron Klusmeier 1974~*

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1. Would you bless our homes and families,  
Source of life who calls us here;  
in our world of stress and tension  
teach us love that conquers fear.  
Help us learn to love each other  
with a love that constant stays;  
teach us when we face our troubles,  
love's expressed in many ways.



2. When our way is undemanding,  
let us use the time that's ours  
to delight in simple pleasures,  
sharing joys in gentle hours.  
When our way is anxious walking  
and a heavy path we plod,  
teach us trust in one another  
and in you, our gracious God.

3. From the homes in which we're nurtured,  
with the love that shapes us there,  
teach us, God, to claim as family  
Everyone whose life we share.  
And through all that life may offer,  
may we in your love remain;  
may the love we share in families  
be alive to praise your name.

4. Let us reach beyond the boundaries  
of our daily thought and care  
till the family you have chosen  
spills its love out every where.  
Help us learn to love each other  
with a love that constant stays;  
teach us when we face our troubles  
love's expressed in many ways.

**-end-**

# Commissioning and Benediction

**Sung Amen: Voices United # 974**

*~Jim Strathee~*

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**Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!**

**Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!**

**Followed by...Moment of Reflection & Postlude**