

# NEW HOPE UNITED CHURCH

**A Christian Community growing together in  
Faith, Service and Love.**



**June 23, 2024**

# New Hope United Church

Sunday, June 23, 2024  
 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
 Indigenous Sunday  
 Proper 7

**Bold print indicates a congregational response.**

**\* indicates when the congregation is standing, if they are able.**

## We Gather as God's People

### Gathering Meditation

(We invite you to silently meditate prior to the service.)

**Prelude: "The Butterfly Song" (B. Howard)**

### Passing the peace of the Christ

Grace and peace from God our Father, the Saviour Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you!

**And also with you.**

### Words of Welcome/Life and Work of Our Church

### The Lighting of the Christ Candle

### Music for the Lighting of the Candle

### Call to Worship

**\*Opening Hymn: "Come in, Come in and Sit Down" (#395 VU)**

***Refrain:***

**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. R**
  
- 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. R**
  
- 3 **There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. R**
  
- 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. R**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Sung Response: "Spirit, Open My Heart" (#79 MV - refrain)**  
**Spirit, open my heart  
 To the joy and pain of living.  
 As you love me I love,  
 In receiving and in giving,  
 Spirit, open my heart.**

### **Words of Assurance**

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and accepted.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Sung Response: "Jesus, You Fill Our Hearts" (#101 MV)**  
**Jesus, you fill our hearts with your love,  
 Our minds with your peace,  
 And our lives with your joy.**

**Ministry of Music: "God Bless our Land" (R. Bell)**

## **We Listen for the Word of God**

### **Prayer for Illumination:**

God of eternity, by the power of your Spirit, speak your Word to us this day, that hearing, we may know your truth and live ever more faithfully for you. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading: Genesis 9:1, 8-17**

God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." .... Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

### **Response**

This is the Word of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Sung Response: "Called by Earth and Sky"**

(#135 MV - refrain only; twice)

**Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.**

**This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.**

**Reflection: "L'Arche - A Symbol of Symbiosis"**  
**Rev. Padre Andrew K. Lee**

**Music for Silent Reflection**

**Baptism**

**\* Hymn: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" (#442 VU)**

- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,  
 where your cleansing waters flow.  
 Number them among your people;  
 bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
 Weave them garments bright and sparkling;  
 compass them with love and light.  
 Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,  
 holy dove and heart's delight.**
  
- 2 We who bring them long for nurture;  
 by your milk may we be fed.  
 Let us join your feast, partaking  
 cup of blessing, living bread.  
 God, renew us, guide our footsteps;  
 free from sin and all its snares,  
 one with Christ in living, dying,  
 by your Spirit, children, heirs.**
  
- 3 O how deep your holy wisdom!  
 Unimagined, all your ways!  
 To your name be glory, honour!  
 With our lives we worship, praise!  
 We your people stand before you,  
 water-washed and Spirit-born.  
 By your grace, our lives we offer.  
 Recreate us; God, transform!**

**Statement of Purpose**

## **Presentation of Candidates - Thom Stenson**

On behalf of the congregation of New Hope United Church, I present the following persons for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism. Please come forward:

Bahareh Mokri

Daniel Akhoundi, child of Abbasali Akhoundi and Bahareh Mokri

Benjamin Akhoundi, child of Abbasali Akhoundi and Bahareh Mokri

## **Profession of Faith and Promises**

### **Profession of Faith in the Triune God**

Do you believe in one God, Source of love; in Jesus Christ, love incarnate; and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

**I do.**

### **Commitment to Seek Justice and Resist Evil**

Trusting the gracious mercy of God, will you turn from the forces of evil, and renounce their power?

**I will.**

### **Commitment to Follow the Way of Jesus Christ**

Will you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as Saviour and Lord?

**I will.**

### **Commitment to the Mission and Ministry of the Church**

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this congregation to share in the life, work, and ministry of Jesus Christ?

**I will.**

### **\*Congregational Commitment** *(Please stand, if you are able.)*

New Hope United Church, do you commit yourselves to support and nurture this family within a community which worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

**We do, by the grace of God.**

### **\*Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed**

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water**

### **The Act of Baptism**

**Baptism in the Name of the Triune God**

**Blessing**

**Marking with the Sign of the Cross**

**Laying On of Hands**

### **Symbolic Actions**

**Lighting of a Candle**

**Baptism Certificates**

## **Declaration and Congregational Welcome**

### **Congregational Welcome - Thom Stenson**

Bahareh Mokri, Daniel Akhoundi, and Benjamin Akhoundi we the New Hope United Church congregation welcome you! (*Applause*)

## **We Respond to God's Word**

### **The Offering of our Gifts and Ourselves**

**Invitation**

**Offertory: "In Gratitude and Humble Trust" (#544 VU)**

**In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today**

**to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.**

**\*Offertory Prayer (Altogether)**

**We return to you, O God,  
the gifts you have given, that this money, and our lives,  
might bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer (*sung*): (#959 VU)**

**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. Amen.**

**We Go Forth to Love as Christians in the Word**

**\*Closing Hymn: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (#291 VU)**

*Refrain:*

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.**

**1 Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their tiny wings. R**



- 2 The purple headed mountains,  
the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky; R**
- 3 The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one. R**
- 4 The rocky mountain splendour,  
the lone wolf's haunting call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,  
the forest in the fall; R**
- 5 God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God our maker,  
who has made all things well. R**

### **Blessing and Sending Forth**

#### **\*Choral Blessing: "Go Now In Peace"**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

### **Postlude**

**New Hope United Church**

**Rev. Andrew Lee, Minister**

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## Announcements

### **Indigenous Sunday Worship**

New Hope celebrates the Indigenous Sunday today.

### **Baptisms**

New Hope congratulates Bahareh Mokri, Daniel Akhoundi, and Benjamin Akhoundi for baptisms.

### **Peace Rally**

Thank you for participating in the May 25<sup>th</sup> rally. Rev. Lee will be present on Wednesdays from 1-2 p.m. at Jane and Rutherford for rallies in June. Please contact him if you would like to join him.

### **Summer Schedule**

**New Hope** will not be holding a worship service on **June 30<sup>th</sup>**, but you are invited to join King City at their 10:00 am service. All three YUM Churches will be closed for the month of July.

YUM worship will resume on August 4<sup>th</sup> on a rotating basis.

- August 4** - York Pines – **11:00** am, followed by a BBQ  
+ YAYA activities
- August 11** - King City – 10:00 am  
Rev. Andrew will offer Cold Noodle Day after the  
Joint worship service + YAYA activities
- August 18** - New Hope – 10:00 am start time
- August 25** - York Pines – **11:00** am start time
- Sept. 1** - New Hope – 10:00 am start time
- Sept. 8** - New Hope back to normal rotation - 9:30 am

### **Rev. Lee's Continuing Education**

Rev. Lee will have two weeks of continuing Education from August 12 ~ August 26.

### **Offering**

Collection plates can be found on the table in the entranceway or at the back of the Sanctuary. Please consider joining PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance) mailing a cheque to the church or setting up an e-transfer. Reminder: While we may not be worshipping in July, we continue to incur expenses. Your support is much appreciated.

## Worship Schedule

Date	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
Preacher	Rev. Andrew Lee	Rev. Andrew Lee	Catherine Hions	
Church Year	Eleventh after Pentecost	Twelfth after Pentecost	Thirteenth after Pentecost	Fourteenth after Pentecost
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green	Green
YUM/UCC Calendar	YUM Joint Service <b>at York Pines, 11:00 a.m.</b>	YUM Joint Service <b>at King City UC, 10:00 a.m.</b>	YUM Joint Service <b>at New Hope, 10:00 a.m.</b>	YUM Joint Service <b>at York Pines, 11:00 a.m.</b>

**SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, September 28th!**

**Magic Show & Munchies**

**with the**

**Magic of Orion**

**1 - 3:30 pm**

**New Hope United Church**

**[www.magicforion.com](http://www.magicforion.com)**

### **Mission and Service Stories**

We are blessed to live in Canada, a country that recognizes the right to love whoever you want, regardless of their gender or sex. And while we haven't always done what is right, The United Church of Canada now recognizes that all love—including Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ relationships—is holy and blessed by God. But those rights do not exist in many parts of the world today.

“One of our partners in Kenya has advocated strongly for the human rights of sexual minorities, and that has caused him to be in jail, caused him to risk his life to be able to do that,” says the Rev. Michael Blair. The church’s first openly gay General Secretary is now helping to advocate for sexual and gender minorities in foreign countries.

“When we hear these stories, we can see that this is a life and death matter.” Your gifts for Mission and Service help shelter refugees as they escape repressive governments. Same-sex attraction is a crime in 71 countries, and 11 of them have the death penalty.

Mission and Service also holds consultations in other countries to discover how we can best work with our partners to protect sexual and gender minorities. “A few years ago, we hosted a consultation here in Canada with several partners and asked how we can be supportive of their work,” Blair says. “They told us we needed to come and help in their context.”

To date, Mission and Service has supported consultations in Latin America and the Philippines.

“We are bringing together leaders to explore how the church can be a place of liberation and life for sexual and gender minorities in those communities. That is happening because of the folks who contribute to Mission and Service,” says Blair.

Thank you for helping to protect sexual and gender minorities. You are saving lives and changing views around the world!