

Welcome to our community as we worship together.

Bienvenue à l'Église Summerlea. Venez nous rejoindre pour les rafraîchissements dans la salle de l'église ce matin, après le service.

Please join us for fellowship hour in the church hall following the service.

There are no visitors here, for we are all part of the family of God.

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Summerlea United Church is located on land that has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples and nations. We honor, recognize, and respect these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

**April 26, 2026, 10:30**

**Officiating: Tessa Ann Griffin**

## **We Gather as God's People**

### **Prelude**

**Introit** *"Over My Head"*

**MV 88**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Time of Centering**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

### **Call to Worship**

God, our Shepherd, offers us abundant life.

**God, you are with us!**

God, our Shepherd, leads us by still waters.

**God, restore our souls!**

God, our Shepherd, walks with us through every dark valley.

**God, we will not be afraid!**

**God, our Shepherd, we praise you for your goodness and mercy with us every day.**

### **Opening Hymn**

*"Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven"*

**VU 240**

### **Prayer of Praise and Adoration**

God of love,

We come together into your presence trusting that your love has the power to defeat evil in the world. We come together into your presence trusting that Christ show us that your love defeats even the power of death.

We come together into your presence trusting that your Holy Spirit guide us through the darkest valleys. We worship you with glad hearts, praising you in the name of our Risen Lord, praying with the breath of your Spirit in us. Renew our strength and courage to face whatever each day holds, so our lives will bring you honour and glory now and always. **Amen.**

## Call to Confession

Loving God, trusting your grace and mercy, we come together to your throne of grace to confess our sins. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## Prayer of Confession

God of love,

**we confess that too often we let the events around us shatter our trust in your love. When terror strikes and innocents fall, we wonder if love can defeat violence. When truth gets lost among misleading claims, we wonder if love can prevail over lies. Forgive us, God, when we lose our trust in the power of your love so soon after it raised Jesus from death's grip. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen**

## Assurance of Pardon

The Apostle Paul asked: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword?

No! He declared. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us rejoice that no matter what is happening around us, God's gracious and forgiving love will never let us go.

**I am forgiven and set free from the power of sin and death through the blood of Jesus Christ.**

Hymn *"Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"* VU 559

## We Listen to the Word of God

*Scripture Reader: John Osborne*

**Prayer for Understanding:** God of green pastures and still waters, quiet our hearts and minds as we listen to the Scriptures. By your Spirit deepen our understanding so that we come to know you more fully and follow your Word more faithfully. Amen.

- **Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**
- **Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10**  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn *"I Have Called You by Your Name"* MV 161

## Sermon

## We Respond to God's Love

Anthem *"Without His Cross"*

## **Invitation to the Offering**

## **Offertory**

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**God with a tender heart, we thank you for the care you offer to us as our Shepherd. Bless the gifts we offer so they will spread your abundant love to lives in need of caring. Bless our lives so that we may care for the world as we follow Jesus day by day. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

# **We Go Out to Witness in the World**

**Closing Hymn** *"Your Hand, O God, Has Guided"* **VU 274**

## **Commissioning and Benediction**

Go in peace, sure that the Good Shepherd walks beside you. May God lead you to places of rest and renewal; May Christ give you courage on the journey; May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts with joy and generosity; and may the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, dwell in your hearts this day and always.

## **Threefold Amen**

## **Postlude**