

Sunday, 10 am – June 10, 2018
Sunday School Closing & Celebration
All Ages Worship

Theme: Sunday School Rocks!

* indicates stand as able

We Gather as a Community

Gathering Music & Parade: Praise the Mother, Joy, And on This Path
MV 8 (sung 3X) BCUC Band leading

Lighting of Christ Candle: Acolyte: Kael Fowler
“Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” (Matthew 18: 2-5)

Welcome and Greeting / The Life, Work and Mission of the Church

**Call to Worship:*¹ Heidi & Katrina TeGrotenhuis
We are the children of the world, and despite our different backgrounds, we share a common reality.

We are united by our struggle to make the world a better place for all.

You call us the future, but we are also the present.

So come, sisters and brothers of every age!

Come, cousins and kin from every land and place!

As children in *this* place—learners for Christ and children of God—we’re here with the belief that the world can be different.

We’re here with the belief that God’s love, living in us and through us, changes the world! **Alleluia!**

Invitation for Prayer: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying VU 400

*Prayer of Approach:*² Leader: Erin Berard
(The prayer leader invites the group to repeat words and actions)

(*arms open wide*) **Holy God,**
(*arms move in, pretending to rock a baby*)
you were with us when we were born,
(*squatting down, slowly rising with arms overhead*)
you are with us as we grow,
(*covering heart with hands and crumpling a bit*)
you are with us when we hurt,
(*standing tall, arms to side*) **you are with us when we are whole.**
(*cupping hands at belly*) **Thank you.**
(*raising cupped hands to chest level*) **Thank you!**
(*raising hands above head*) **THANK YOU!**
(*making “binoculars”*) **Would you help us to see?**
(*cupping ears*) **Would you help us to hear?**
(*stretching arms out*) **Would you help us to love?**
(*making 360-degree turn*) **So we might change ourselves.**
(*making 360-degree turn*) **So we might change the world!**
(*arms open wide*) **Amen.**

Time of Celebration & Appreciation Lorrie Lowes

**Hymn:* Jesus Loves Me (Tune: We Will Rock You) CGS & Bell Canto

We Listen for God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination: (*together*) Noah Berard
Dear God, we come as children, humble, innocent and trusting. We come, ready to hear your Word. Amen.

**Hymn:* Like A Rock MV 92

Skit: “Stuff” (based on Mark 16:14-15) Narrator: Meighen Crow,
Reader 1: Phoenix Miller, Reader 2: Raven Miller

Ministry of Music: Live in Praise of the Lord - Dowell/Barrett

¹ Richard Bott, ‘We Hold These Children’, A Service for Children’s Sunday.

² Richard Bott

We Respond in Faith

Prayer of Thanksgiving

David Donaldson

One: As I look around, I say, "Thank you, God!"
For the gift of this person in my life.
Thank you for who they are.
Thank you for how they change who I am.
Thank you for all that is good in them,
and for all that is good in the world.
Thank you for making them my teacher,
and thank you for helping them learn from me.
Hold this child in your love!

All: Hold all children in your love!

One: God, this child is your child.
I'm not sure where they come from.
I don't know what is happening in their life.
But I do know that, just like me, they need your love.
If there is some way that *I* can make a difference in their life,
guide me to that action—
so I can help to be your hands, your heart, and your love in
the world.
Hold these children in your love.

All: Hold these children in your love. Amen.

Sung Response: The Lord's Prayer CGS & Bell Canto

Offering and Offertory Music: Not to Us, O Lord –
MW Smith & Paul Smith arr. Schrader

Presentation of Offering and Offertory Hymn: What Can I Do?
MV191

* *Offertory Prayer (together)* Lorrie Lowes
**Holy God, we thank you for all the gifts that you have given us.
With thankful hearts we offer our gifts for the care and the
healing of your world. Use our gifts and bless all that they may
touch. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

We Depart in Peace

**Hymn:* One More Step Along the World I Go VU 639

*Sending Forth:*³ A Blessing for All the Children of the World
(Children & youth come forward)
Children of God,
May someone hold you close tonight,
and may you never wake alone.
May you have food to eat,
and may you never wake hungry.
May you sleep in a safe and quiet place,
and may you never wake to the sound of fighting.
May you have someone to love and protect you,
and may you never wake in fear.
May you have a shelter over your head,
and may you never wake in the cold.
May you always know that you are one of God's beloved ones,
may you never wake alone. Amen.

Departing Music: This is Not the End BCUC Band

A big thanks go to the Sunday School, Youth & Adult volunteers who helped in the service and for making the celebration a memorable one!

Thanks to Those Assisting with Today's Service:

Greeter/Ushers: Bill Wilson, Lyn Williams,
Young Ushers & Greeters: Amelia & Georgia Baynes, Jacob Kim
Refreshments: Pierre & Marion Dugas
Sound System: Ken Kim

**The youth, children and family members are invited to the gym
after the service for a time of entertainment followed by a Spaghetti
Feast potluck in the Main Hall. Freewill donation to the Roof Fund
is welcome.**

³ Alyson Huntly, *The Gentle Dark*, p. 18