

## **Sunday Worship on November 16, 2025**

(CCLI: License Number #3156883) (Welcoming Elder: Kevin Johnston)

### **We Gather**

- Welcome and Announcements
- Responsive Call to Worship
- Praise song BOP 62 New songs of celebration render (Psalm 98)
- Prayer for Worship and the Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song Jesus, Friend of children
- Prayer for children

### **We listen**

- Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)
- First reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- Second reading: Psalm 98 (Refrain 1)
- Third reading: Isaiah 65:17-25
- Sermon: **A Legacy of hope**
- Praise song BOP 763 To show by touch and word
- Prayer for the people

### **We Respond**

- Offering, Doxology (BOP 321 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty vs.1) & Dedication
- Song for the Journey BOP 376 Lord, the light of your love is shining

### **We Serve**

- Benediction
- A Sung Blessing

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### **Responsive Call to Worship**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**We will lift up joyous songs and sing your praises.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it rejoice.

**Let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord.**

For God will come to judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**Let us join with all creation to praise the Lord! Let us worship God.**

**Praise song – BOP 62 New songs of celebration render (Psalm 98)**

### **Prayer of Adoration**

God of creation and compassion, you hear the cries of your people.

You know our fear and despair. In your great love, you assure us that you walk with us in Christ Jesus. In this time of worship, we long to see your new heaven and new earth break through, making your justice known and life fruitful for all your children. We praise you for the hope you

offer us in Christ Jesus. We trust that you are at work in your church and in creation so all that is broken will be made new.

Through our prayers and our praise, strengthen our trust in your promised future, O God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life.

**Prayer of confession (Unison)**

**God of promise and purpose, you set before us a vision of your new heaven and earth, yet we confess we easily cling to the past. We hold on to grudges and resentment.**

**We grumble about change even when we see the need for it.**

**We resist making room for those who have faced discrimination in our community.**

**Forgive these old ways of thinking and acting.**

**Create in us hearts made new by your mercy and love. Amen.**

**Heavenly Father, hear us, as we offer the Prayer that Jesus taught us:** (The Lord's Prayer:)

**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.**

**Words of Assurance**

Sisters and brother in Christ, hear the good news! While the world judges in order to condemn, God judges with justice, equity and mercy. All things have been made new in Christ and our sin is forgiven. Thanks be to God that we can all make a new start at this very moment.

**May the Peace of Christ be with you.** *(Let us bless each other with the peace of the Lord.)*

**Praise song – Jesus, Friend of children**

**Prayer for the children**

**Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)**

- First reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- Second reading: Psalm 98 (Refrain 1)
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**“This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.”**

**Sermon: A legacy of hope**

Precious people of God, grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ who makes all things new.

Today is Legacy Sunday. It is a day when we pause and remember the people who came before us. Those who prayed for this church, served faithfully, gave generously, and believed that God's work would continue long after their own lives ended.

We gather, not only to remember them, but also to consider what kind of legacy we are leaving behind.

And into this moment, God gives us a powerful word of hope through the prophet Isaiah.

**“For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.”**

See! I am creating new heavens and a new earth!

These are not small words. These are not gentle ideas.

These are world-shaking, heart-lifting promises.

Isaiah lived in a time when God's people were discouraged. They remembered a glorious past. But their present felt broken. They saw ruins where there used to be joy and glory of God. Now, they felt tired. They felt anxious. They feared their best days might be behind them.

To them, God speaks into their weariness:

**“Behold, I am creating new heavens and a new earth.”**

It is not repairing. It's not touching up. It's not patching holes.

It is **CREATING ANEW.**

God says, “you think the story is over, but I am only beginning. You think loss is final, but I am writing a new chapter. You fear the world is too broken, but I am making all things new.”

Psalms 98 invites us, **v1, “O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.”**

Even when we cannot see the whole picture, God is at work. God is renewing. God is bringing joy from sorrow and hope from despair.

This is the foundation of Christian legacy. **We believe that the future belongs to God.**

The prophecy of Isaiah is not passive. The people in this passage build. They plant. They work. They live in justice and peace.

This is a picture of **everyday faithfulness.**

And it is also **a picture of legacy**

A legacy is not only what we leave behind at the end of our life.  
A legacy is everything we build through our daily decisions.

The relationships we nurture. The encouragement we provide.  
The prayers we offer. The ministries we support. The faith we live out in our daily life, before  
God, our own self, and others.

Legacy is formed one act of obedience at a time.

Paul reminds us in **2 Thessalonians 3:13, “Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.”**

This teaches us not to grow weary.  
Even when the work feels slow. Even when the world feels heavy.  
Even when faithfulness feels unnoticed.

During the week, I watched an interview of a Korean singer I like. He is one of the greatest vocalists. Recently, he’s experiencing a vocal coordination disorder. His vocal-fold muscle is not working properly in high note range. Because his concert was scheduled already, he could not cancel. He lowered the key, but everyone knows that that’s not his style. So, he honestly told the audience that he’s experiencing vocal disorder, and sang all the songs in the original keys. When he sang one song, he had 20-30 voice cracks. He says, it was the most memorable and meaning concert in his vocalist career. Many audiences shed tears, not because of sadness, but out of being touched witnessing his direct fight. He did not avoid confronting his vocal disorder in front of audience. He did not hide it or pretend that he was okay. In the situation of despair, he did not choose to be weary. Instead, he chose hope. He focused on God.

Now, he focuses on rehabilitation of his voice. His prayer is this. He prays for the restoration of his voice. He hopes not only getting back his voice, but he hopes his voice gets better. Like a new creation, from today’s focus. He tries to leave a great legacy as a singer.

God will notice his effort. God will be pleased with our honest cry to him. God will use every seed we plant, every decision, every attempt, and every prayer. Nothing done in Christ’s name is ever wasted.

Isaiah gives us a beautiful image, **V22, “My chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.”**

What we give to God does not disappear. Our time, our prayers, our kindness, our generosity. They become part of God’s future. Part of God’s new creation. Part of the lives of people we may never meet.

**This is the heart of Legacy Giving Sunday.**

We give today for a tomorrow that belongs to God.

We plant, knowing that others will harvest.

We serve, knowing that others will be blessed.

We give, trusting that God will take our offering and multiply it for his kingdom.

Every legacy gift says to the next generation whether it's large or small, whether it's our time, effort, energy, kindness, service, and etc.

**“We believe in God's future. We believe in this church. We believe the gospel must continue long after we are gone.”**

**V25, “The wolf and the lamb shall feel together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox.”**

Isaiah ends with a strange, but peaceful vision.

There is no fear. No harm. No destruction.

Nothing broken. Nothing lost.

This is the world God is bringing.

A world of peace. A world of harmony. A world made whole.

A world fully reconciled. A world where Christ's peace reigns.

Where do we get this peace? Do we have to wait till we go to heaven?

Here is the good news. **“This peace has already begun in Jesus Christ.”**

In his death, he broke the power of sin.

In his resurrection, he opened the door to new creation.

In his Spirit, he empowers us to live as people of hope today.

So when we live generously, when we forgive each other, when we encourage the broken-hearted, when we give ourselves for the gospel, **then, we are already living inside God's future.**

We are already participating in God's new creation.

Today, God invites each of us to ask:

What am I leaving behind?

What hope am I planting?

What future am I supporting in Christ's name?

Our legacy is not measured by the size of our resources but by the depth of our trust in God. Every act of generosity becomes a seed in the garden of God's new creation. Every prayer becomes a thread in his future. Every offering becomes an investment in lives yet to be touched by his grace and love.

The Legacy Giving Sunday traditionally is about money giving. But we can extend its great meaning to every endeavour of our daily life.

Let us embrace our new identity. **2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." (ESV)**

We are new creations.

May every step of our lives become meaningful, and may all the things we do leave our legacy in our life and for our next generation.

I will finish my message with one verse from Psalm.

**Psalm 19:14, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."**

This is the message of the Lord for us today.

**Praise song 763 To show by touch and word**

**Prayer for the people:**

Gracious Lord, you are the one who makes all things new. We thank you for the vision you placed before us today. You put dreams of a future shaped by your promises and carried forward by your Holy Spirit. As we step into this week, strengthen our hands to build, soften our hearts to hope, and guide our lives so that every word, every act of kindness, every offering of love becomes a seed of your new creation.

Make us faithful stewards of the legacy you have entrusted to us. And teach us to trust that nothing done in Christ's name is ever lost.

Merciful and faithful God, we come before you with gratitude for your presence in every season of life. We thank you for the saints who came before us. Thank you for their prayers, sacrifices, and loved shaped the church we cherish today. May their faith inspire us to live boldly for your kingdom.

We pray for those in our congregation who are weary, ill, grieving, or discouraged. Surround them with your comfort. Heal the sick. Strengthen caregivers. Bring peace where there is anxiety, and hope where there is heaviness of heart.

We lift up nations torn by war. Ukraine, Gaza and Israel, Sudan, Myanmar, and every land where violence steals life and peace. Lord, have mercy. Protect the innocent. Heal

the wounded. Restore leaders who seek justice and truth. Bring an end to hatred and heal the trauma that conflict leaves behind.

We pray for creation groaning under disasters, for refugees searching for safety, for those living in poverty, and for communities divided by fear. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this world. Renew the face of the earth.

And for us, God, empower our daily faithfulness. Make our lives a living testimony of your grace and love. Let our church shine with hope, generosity, and compassion. We pray all this in the strong and gentle name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

**Invitation to the offering:**

Legacy is not only something we leave at the end of life. It is something we build every day. when we give, we participate in the future God is shaping. We plant seeds that will bless people we may never meet. We join hands with the saints who came before us and the believers who will come after us. As we bring our offerings today, let us give with grateful hearts, trusting that God will take what we offer and multiply it for his kingdom and for his glory.

As we give our offerings, let us glorify God.

*(BOP #321, Praise to the Lord, the Almighty. Vs. 1)*

**Offering prayer:**

God of every good gift, you are the Giver of life, the Source of hope, and the Creator of all things new. We bring these offerings to you as seeds of faith. Take what we place in your hands today. Our resources, our prayers, our service, our time, and our love. Use them to build a future filled with your grace. Bless every gift and us. May these offerings strengthen your church, bless our community, and become part of a legacy that points others to Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**Song for the Journey – BOP 376 Lord, the light of your love is shining**

Now, it is our time to be sent to the world where God called us to be.

As we prepare to go into the world this week, let us carry with us the hope God has placed in our hearts. He is creating new heavens and a new earth, and that his Spirit is already at work among us. We go as people formed by grace and called to leave a legacy of faith, compassion, and generosity. Wherever God sends us, may we live as signs of his new creation, trusting that every act done in Christ's name becomes part of his future.

**Benediction:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, our Father, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, now and always. Amen.