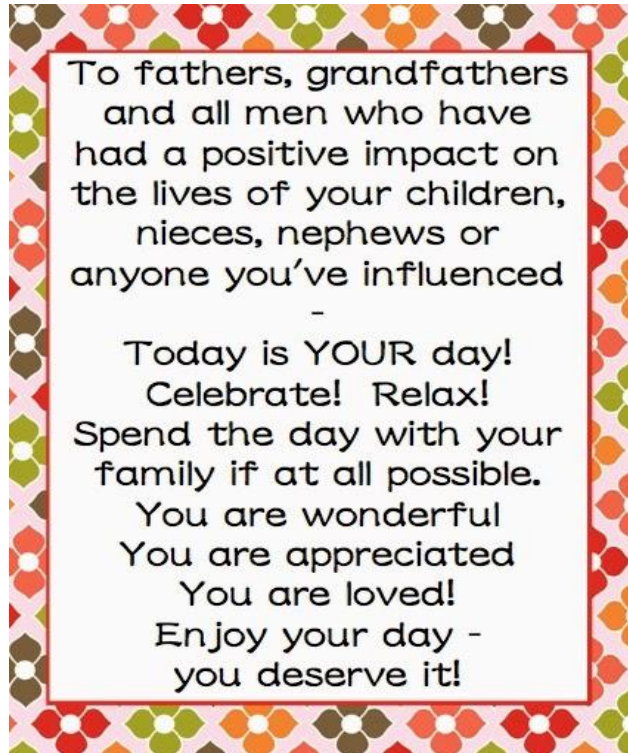




The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville!

Sunday June 21, 2026



Minister: Rev. Diane Knowles
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The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast, are on the traditional territories of Indigenous people.

Welcome To Trinity

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville

Father's Day!

Sunday June 21, 2026 - 10:00 am

"Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands"

*"Children don't need perfect fathers.
They need present ones."*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Introit: "Dance with the Spirit" (MV 156)

All: **Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life aborn-in',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**
(repeat)

Greeting

One: Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly!"

All: **In our daily lives may this be so.**

Welcome to Trinity United Church –
the heart in the heart of Huntsville!

Welcome in Friendship!

Welcome in God's all-inclusive love as we grow in our faith and spirituality together!

Happy Father's Day to all our fathers and grandfathers and father-like figures!

Happy First Day of Summer- longest day of the year!

Trinity United Church is an Affirming community of faith, whomever you love, whatever your gender or economic status this is your community of faith. Jesus welcomed everybody and so do we! We are all God's beloved part of our one grand human family. Welcome!

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

A Moment of Quiet Reflection

Call to Worship

One: We come as we are today some carrying gratitude for fathers who were present while others are carrying grief for fathers who were absent or lost.

All: **God of all generations, meet us where we are.**

One: We come as fathers and father-figures and families of every size and shape, all of us learning what it means to love and to be loved.

All: **We do not come seeking perfection but presence-yours with us and ours with one another.**

One: God who shows up for us, help us to show up for each other.

All: **Come, let us celebrate God's presence together!**

Opening Hymn: "Jesus, Stand among Us" (VU 396)

Opening Prayer

All: **Divine Love, we come before you on this Father's Day with hearts that are full in many different ways. For some of us, this day is filled with gratitude, memories of fathers who showed up lovingly and**

faithfully. For others, the day holds hurt and pain for the fathers who could not show up because of their own wounds and brokenness. Remind us once more that each generation does the best they can with who they are and the information they have at the time. May we trust that faithfulness is found in simple things- in showing up, in listening, in staying and in trying again. Amen.

Light Beamer Song: "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"
(VU 357 - verses 1 and 2)

Lighting of the Christ candle

This morning we light our candle for all the bedtime stories, early morning ice time, for ties received as gifts, for handing over the car keys and waves goodbye, for father daughter wedding dances and cradling grandchildren for the first time... for all the moments and all the meaning in the role of a lifetime... our flame flickers for the fatherhood.

Time with our Light Beamers

(Our young people are taught the values and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, his love and his compassion for all God's people. In turn, they learn how to shine their love with others at home, at school and at play.)

Congregational Blessing

Light Beamers: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you.**

Anthem: "Great is the Lord"

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Our Scripture Reader today is Shirley Boon.

Prayer of Illumination

One: Holy Wisdom, come quiet all that turns us against ourselves, one another and any of your creations. Lead us in love that mends and restores. Amen.

New Testament Reading: Luke 15: 11-24
(The story of the Prodigal Son.)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to our hearts.

All: **Amen.**

The Minister's Message: "Present, not Perfect"

Brief Musical Reflection

Offering Invitation

One: On this Father's Day we are reminded that the deepest gift many of us have received or longed for is the gift of presence. The quiet showing up. So let us offer our gifts with gratitude as we learn again what it means to simply show up with love.

Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

Offering Hymn: "Grateful" (MV 182)

All: **Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy word.
Joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you, Lord.**

Offering Prayer

All: **Loving Spirit, we bring these gifts before you. Bless them and use them for your purposes of love in this world. Where there is loneliness, let them become presence. Where there is need, let them become care.**

Where there is weariness, let them become hope. Shape us into people who reflect your heart: present, steady, and full of grace. Amen.

WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn: "Long Ago and Far Away" (MV 195)

Invitation to the Table

One: What a delightful way to kick start our summer season by gathering together at Christ's table and breaking bread and sharing the cup together.

Greeting

One: May God be with us.

All: **God is here among us. God is with us wherever we go and wherever we are.**

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

All: **We open them to God and to one another.**

One: Let us give thanks to God for this meal of remembrance, for Fathers everywhere both past and present and the gift of life we have graciously received.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Blessing and Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

The gifts of God for the people of God!
Come for all is ready!

(A bouquet of thanks to our servers today...

Sheila Petch, Judy White, Barb and Rob Dalziel)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is served.

(You are now invited to come forward via the centre aisle and proceed to one of the two serving stations. First, you take the bread and eat. Then proceed to take the cup. You then place your glass in a container and return to your seat via the side aisles to allow for a smoother flow of traffic. When you receive the bread and the cup you can simply say "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." Servers will happily serve you in your seat upon request.)

Post Communion Prayer

All: **God of grace, we thank you for meeting us at this table, not as perfect people, but as people you love. Teach us again what it means to live faithfully, not perfectly, but present. Like the warmth of the summer time sun warm us with your love. Take our lives and touch them with grace so we may nourish hope and courage among our family and friends. Let us return to our world filled with words that bring life-giving energy and actions that are filled with your love and understanding. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

A contemporary version of the Prayer of Jesus

All: **Eternal Spirit,
Pain bearer and life giver,
Source of all that is and all that shall be.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

WE GO INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Closing Hymn: "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"
(VU 556)

Commissioning

One: In the Spirit of love, we have gathered and now in the Spirit of love let us depart.

Irish Benediction

One: May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold us all in the palm of God's hand. Amen.

Musical Postlude: Kyung-A Lee

Following the Postlude, let's take three minutes to greet one another with the peace of Christ or simply reach out and say hello to somebody you have not had the blessing of meeting until today.



Please join us in Trinity Hall following today's service where you are invited for a cup of tea or coffee and fellowship time.

With thanks to Joanne and Bob Sutherland for hosting our Coffee Hour today!



Your Thought for the Week!

*"God doesn't wait for us to be perfect.
God runs toward us as we are and calls us home
through presence, not performance or achievement."*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

The Outreach Team thanks you for helping to collect food for the Corner Lighthouse Food Bank. **June is Evaporated Milk!**

Welcome to Trinity's Summer Book Study!

"As we enter the vast continent of aging, we are called to shift the way we perceive the world and how we move through it."

What does it mean to age? As years go by, this question becomes more and more real. The goal in facing aging is to live more fully the closer we get to death.

Our Inspirit Team is inviting you to our summer book study starting Tuesday July 7 to Tuesday July 28 at 2:00 pm to 3:30 ish in the Arnold Room.

Our book is called "**The Fifth Season**" by Mark Nepo - Creativity in the Second Half of Life. This book offers wise and gentle insights into growing old gracefully. The author invites us to age in a sweet, sacred and intentional way.

Let's walk this road to aging well together!
Warmly, Rev. D



We welcomed Kanu back with relief, glad that he was okay!

He started the past week with determination and high spirits to support Trinity through this canoe trek - fundraising effort, quickly realizing the challenges that lay ahead.

He faced high winds, rough waves, flooded portages, and those pesky black flies and mosquitoes, all proving to be more difficult than he had anticipated. Additionally, a fall resulted in an injured wrist and bruising in other areas, making the portages even more demanding.

At the end of the day, he sought refuge on an island and ultimately decided to head back, though that too presented its own set of challenges.

For the full story, see Trinity's website's home page!
And Trinity's Facebook page for pictures of Kanu's adventure!

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who supported this fundraiser, and especially to Kanu for his dedication to supporting Trinity through some of his favorite activities!

