

SUMMERLAND UNITED CHURCH
*celebrating faith
seeking justice and
serving others in a loving community*

Welcome to our Sunday Service
Rev. David Sparks
Sunday, February 6th, 2022



TEAMWORK MAKES SUNDAY WORSHIP HAPPEN

Words of Welcome: Carol Bubb

Scripture Reading: John Bubb

PowerPoint Creation: Judi Ritcey

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INTRODUCTION & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING OF THE BELLS

David
Judi

WORDS OF WELCOME

Carol Bubb

A warm welcome to our friends from Summerland United Church who are with us today and to all those joining us from other locations. If there are visitors from other congregations or other places with us this morning, we welcome you and thank you for joining us. If you are comfortable, please unmute yourself and tell us where or what congregation you are from. Please remember to re-mute yourself.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

David

The light of Jesus Christ for the world, the church and ourselves. **Amen**

CALL TO WORSHIP

WE SING TOGETHER – MV 115

Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

DISCIPLES FOR TODAY, A PRAYER

The screens are ready for our work to contact,
to explain, to research, to simply keep in touch.

As disciples, we will use our screens carefully.

The downhearted are ready for our work,

To affirm, to support, to meet them where they are.

As disciples we will be with the downhearted compassionately.

The powerful will encounter us as we work,

To face them, to speak out, to work justly.

As disciples we will counter the powerful courageously.

The marginalized will be our friends as we work,

with patience, with humour, and with a determination to include them in.

As disciples we will show the world that each person matters.

We are the marginalized and we want to be friends,
We bring understanding, patience, and a willingness to go to work.

As disciples we will rejoice as we feel we are included.

Disciples of Jesus, trying,
**searching, sometimes reaching, sometimes failing,
but never reluctant to pursue the way of faith. Amen**

THEME TIME - Prayer

David

Some Questions about What God is Calling us to Do

How can I know that God is calling me to do something special?
there are so many voices?

**Listen out for the voices that speak of the need for justice,
compassion and action, the Jesus-like voices.**

How can I work for peace in our town or our world?
I am just one person?

**You don't have to do it all at once. Find out what the issues are,
then contact a person who has power. Don't give up!**

There are so many people more talented than me, am I wasting God's time?
**God knows you are special, and have talents you haven't yet used,
God challenges you to find and use all your skills and abilities.**

Our church has so many good people, what does God need with my efforts?
**All: It's amazing how much more we can do together; a successful team is
stronger than all the individuals that make it up.**

.....time of reflection.....

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: God will give you answers to your questions,

God will strengthen you when you feel weak and on your own.

**All: In God's strength I have nothing to fear,
in the presence of God's friends, I have a faith group I can rely on.**

One: You may feel downhearted, but you will never walk alone.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

READING Luke 5: 1-11 - CEB

John Bubb

Jesus calls disciples

¹One day Jesus was standing beside Lake Gennesaret when the crowd pressed in around him to hear God's word. ² Jesus saw two boats sitting by the lake. The fishermen had gone ashore and were washing their nets. ³ Jesus boarded one of the boats, the one that belonged to Simon, then asked him to row out a little distance from the shore. Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴ When he finished speaking to the crowds, he said to Simon, "Row out farther, into the deep water, and drop your nets for a catch."

⁵ Simon replied, "Master, we've worked hard all night and caught nothing. But because you say so, I'll drop the nets."

⁶ So they dropped the nets and their catch was so huge that their nets were splitting. ⁷ They signaled for their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They filled both boats so full that they were about to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw the catch, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Leave me, Lord, for I'm a sinner!" ⁹ Peter and those with him were overcome with amazement because of the number of fish they caught. ¹⁰ James and John, Zebedee's sons, were Simon's partners and they were amazed too.

Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid. From now on, you will be fishing for people." ¹¹ As soon as they brought the boats to the shore, they left everything and followed Jesus.

Reader: These words come from the scriptures of our traditions

All: May we find wisdom for our daily lives.

SERMON

WE SING TOGETHER – VU 569

David
You Call Us Out

OFFERING PRAYER

Bless this money offered for the life these churches,
For the suffering, for the housebound, and for those who have special needs.

Bless our time given for God’s work,
To sing God’s praise, to make clear God’s Word, to serve people in this neighbourhood.

Bless our offerings for persons who we will never know,
Our Mission and Service money goes to help the poor, the unemployed, and those who lack good homes, all over the world.

God will bless our different gifts,
God’s name be praised! Amen.

WE SING TOGETHER – MV 79

Spirit Open My Heart

Pastoral Prayer

David

WE SING TOGETHER – VU 959

The Lord’s Prayer

WE SING TOGETHER – MV 161

I Have Called You by Your Name

COMMISSIONING

In responding to God’s call,
There is fear of what will be required of us.

In responding to God’s call,
There is a willingness to venture into the unknown.

In responding to God’s call,
There is a sense that God will be with us.

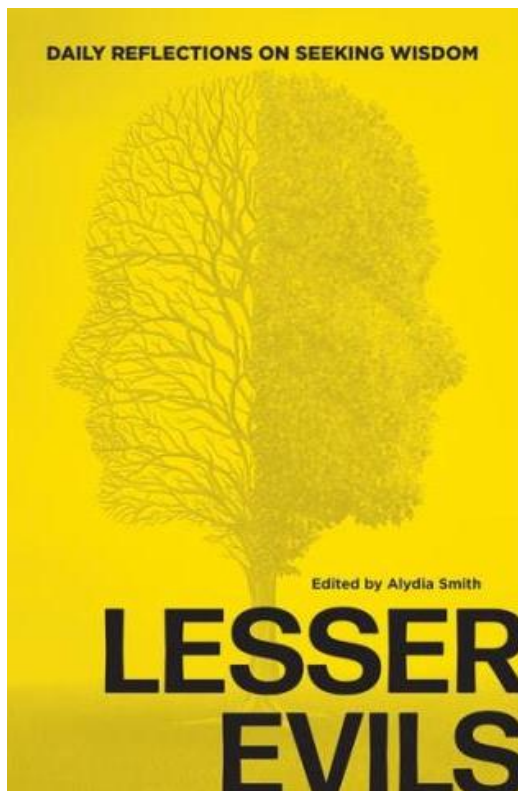
In responding to God’s call,
We know we will go faithfully forward.

And so,
We will listen out for God’s call.

BLESSING

WE SING TOGETHER - MV 104

Know That God is Good



Choosing The Lesser Evil

"This book is about being faithful while wrestling with what's best."

Have you ever had to make a decision knowing that all of the choices in front of you felt wrong somehow? As if you were caught between a rock and a hard place? Regardless of how righteous we might feel about our decisions, we choose evils every day, hoping that we are choosing the lesser ones.

The United Church's Lenten book and study guide *Lesser Evils* published by United Church Publishing House, explores everyday dilemmas of seeking the good while choosing the lesser evil from a Christian perspective.

This collection of devotions challenges all followers of Jesus to faithfully attempt to do and seek good in our actions and choices.

"We confront dilemmas every day: Do I wear this mask? Do we close in-person gatherings? Do I take this parking space? People are trying to work for good. There are a lot of holier than thou judgements going on these days. We wanted to write about making tough decisions. What's hopeful about this book is the faithfulness of the struggle," says editor Alydia Smith.

Your generosity through **Mission & Service** helps deepen faith by lowering the cost of important faith resources such as *Lesser Evils*. What's more, your support means that the book study webinar that accompanies this resource is free. Hosted online through **United in Learning**, the study runs every Tuesday at 1 pm ET from March 8 to April 12, 2022.

"What does it mean to be Christian in this time when we don't always feel good about the many choices before us?" says Smith. "When systems are broken and we are in those systems, how do we deal with it? *Lesser Evils* is really for all of us coping with uncertainty. This book is about being faithful while wrestling with what's best."