

SUMMERLAND UNITED CHURCH
Judith Ritcey - Presiding
Sunday, November 14th, 2021



WHO ever stands firm
to the **END**
will be saved!

Mark 13: 13

PowerPoint Creation: Judi Ritcey
PowerPoint Presenter: John Bubb
Words of Welcome: David Jonsson
Scripture Reading: Linnea Good

GATHERING TIME

9:45 p.m.

INTRODUCTION

Judi

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Judi

“Let us begin our worship this morning acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. and to acknowledge the importance of those lands, which we each call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility in improving relationships between nations and to improving our own understanding of local Indigenous peoples and their cultures. Here in the South Okanagan, we live on the traditional unceded territory of the Syilx First Nations people. May all of us continue to work together in a spirit of love and reconciliation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELL RINGING

WORDS OF WELCOME

David Jonsson

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

Judi

In the shadows of life, Jesus proclaims himself our guiding light. No matter where we are or what circumstances we find ourselves in, Jesus is with us. We light this candle to remind us of the Light that never goes out, we are never alone

WE SING TOGETHER

MV 1 – Let Us Build a House

CALL TO WORSHIP

Judi

All are welcome in this place,

All are welcome in God’s space

Young and old, and in between

short and tall, large and lean.

Those who are lonely, tired and hurting

or giggling smiling, or practically bursting

Each as we are, wonderfully made

we join in God’s house together today

OPENING PRAYER

Judi

Loving God, you who are the centre of all being, we begin our worship today with a thankful heart. We call to mind the many ways our lives are made better just by knowing that your unconditional love and acceptance is a part of who we are. May this time together be guided by your Holy Spirit and may we be uplifted and strengthened in your love and light, so we may channel that love and light into the world. This we pray in the name of the one who is the light of the world, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

The temple's fate

¹ As Jesus left the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Teacher, look! What awesome stones and buildings!"

² Jesus responded, "Do you see these enormous buildings? Not even one stone will be left upon another. All will be demolished."

³ Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives across from the temple. Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things happen? What sign will show that all these things are about to come to an end?"

Keep watch!

⁵ Jesus said, "Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁶ Many people will come in my name, saying, 'I'm the one!' They will deceive many people. ⁷ When you hear of wars and reports of wars, don't be alarmed. These things must happen, but this isn't the end yet. ⁸ Nations and kingdoms will fight against each other, and there will be earthquakes and famines in all sorts of places. These things are just the beginning of the sufferings associated with the end.

⁹ "Watch out for yourselves. People will hand you over to the councils. You will be beaten in the synagogues. You will stand before governors and kings because of me so that you can testify before them. ¹⁰ First, the good news must be proclaimed to all the nations. ¹¹ When they haul you in and hand you over, don't worry ahead of time about what to answer or say. Instead, say whatever is given to you at that moment, for you aren't doing the speaking but the Holy Spirit is. ¹² Brothers and sisters will hand each other over to death. A father will turn in his children. Children will rise up against their parents and have them executed. ¹³ Everyone will hate you because of my name. But whoever stands firm until the end will be saved

REFLECTION

WE SING TOGETHER

Judi

MV 92 - Like A Rock

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Responsorial

... The Holy Spirit tells us to love others as you love us.

We pray for the courage to show others we love them.

The Holy Spirit tells us that the world will hate us.

We pray for the integrity to defy the world's values.

The Holy Spirit tell us to give unselfishly.

We pray for the strength to deny ourselves for the good of others.

The Holy Spirit is God's presence in the world.

May we ring God's peace and comfort to those who are sick or in hospital, to those who are mourning loss, to those who are lonely or depressed, to those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

May others know we are disciples of Jesus by our love of neighbour.

May we offer God's love, compassion, and grace to all.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us to live Christ's commandment.

May we always acknowledge that we are "A Child of God"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

An Adaptation – Jim Cotter

OFFERING

Judi

God has given us everything we need, this earth to live upon and the food we need. As if that were not enough God has also given us the Holy Spirit and all of the spiritual gifts we need. In a spirit of gratitude and humility, we let us offer our gifts back to God. Thank you for your continued support to your church during these past 19 months. Your generosity is needed and very much appreciated.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In Unison

In every way, O God, you paint us all with the rainbow colours of giving.

Take these gifts of relationship, of money, of time and space, of truth, of wellness, and of gracious leadership as the collection of diverse paintbrushes with which we wish to transform the world. Bless our artistry of generosity for your purpose in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE SING TOGETHER

VU 763 – In the Bulb There is a Flower

BLESSING

Judi Ritcey

Go from this place today filled with God's abundant love. Go from this place today filled with God's love in your heart. Go now from this place and share this abundance and love with others. Go now from this place and know that God is grateful for each and every one of you. God from this place. Go with peace. Go with grace. Amen

No Way to Treat a Child: Obaida's Story

The first time he was detained by Israeli military forces, Obaida was only 14.



Obaida was on his way to the store when he was arrested.

Credit: DCIP/Matthew Cassel

Military violence exposes children to unimaginable brutality.

"I was on my way to the store when they arrested me," Obaida, a Palestinian child from Al-Arroub refugee camp, says to the camera. "When they took me for interrogation, they bound my hands in plastic cords. They used two of them so that I couldn't move my hands at all. My eyes were covered in a thick blindfold that also covered my nose and made it hard to breathe."

He is talking about the first time he was detained by Israeli military forces. Obaida was only 14. Palestinians in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip have lived under Israeli occupation since 1967. Anyone—including children—can be arrested without a warrant if there is suspicion that a "security offence" has been committed.

According to The United Church of Canada's mission partner Defense for Children International—Palestine (DCIP), Israeli forces detain and prosecute around 700 Palestinian children every year. Thirteen thousand Palestinian children have been detained by Israeli forces and held in military

detention facilities since 2000. Israel is the only country in the world that routinely convicts children in military courts—which are known to lack fair trial guarantees.

On May 17, 2021, just a month shy of his 18th birthday, Obaida was tragically killed. He was one of the 67 children who were killed by Israeli forces during an 11-day military assault on the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian children, like all children, deserve a childhood that is free of violence. Your [Mission & Service](#) gifts support DCIP in defending and promoting the rights of children living in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

Thank you for helping to provide a safe and just future for all children.