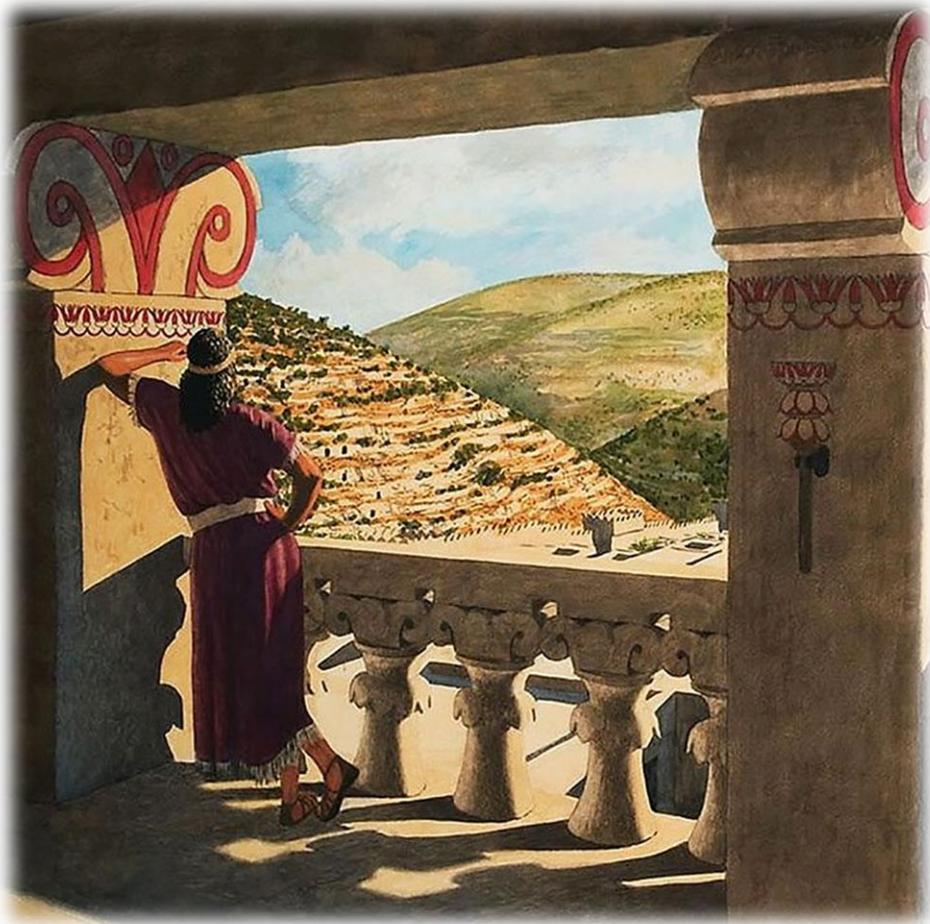


**SUMMERLAND & WESTBANK UNITED CHURCH**  
*celebrating faith*  
*seeking justice and*  
*serving others in a loving community*

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**A Joint Sunday Service for Summerland and Westbank United Churches**  
**Rev. Donald Schmidt - Presiding**  
**Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021**



PowerPoint Creation: Judi Ritcey, Summerland United  
Words of Welcome: Olive Hunter, Summerland United  
Scripture Reading: Linda McCall, Westbank United

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**GATHERING TIME**  
**INTRODUCTION & EXPLANATION**  
**TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

9:45AM  
Rev. Donald Schmidt  
Rev. Donald Schmidt

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**BELL RINGING**  
**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Olive Hunter, Summerland United

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

**MOMENT OF SILENCE TO VIEW THE CONGREGATION**

Friends, we gather apart but together. I invite you now to switch to gallery view or scroll through your screen to witness the children of God gathered with us today.

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE**  
**WE SING TOGETHER**

Rev. Donald Schmidt  
**MV 115 – Behold, I Make all Things New**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Responsorial**

Our God is trustworthy and true,  
**faithful in so many ways.**

The Holy One upholds all who are falling,  
**and brings us up when we are brought low.**

Our Creator is just in all ways,  
**faithful in all things.**

Our God is close to everyone who calls upon God's name;

**God hears our cries and will save us.**

Come, friends, and let us worship God.

**OPENING PRAYER**

**In Unison**

Bread of Life, Source of All, nourish us for we have grown weak. The world has pressed down on us, the blight of oppression has suppressed us. Nourish our souls, Holy One. Feed us with your words, your wisdom, your grace and your peace. Quench our thirst for justice and righteousness. Restore us to your strength, so we can pursue your ways in this world. Guide us

to use our resources to care and nourish others, because in you there is always enough. You are a God of abundant love and grace. Feed us, guide us, and lead us on. Amen.

## **WE SING TOGETHER**

**MV 178 – Who Is My Mother?**

## **SCRIPTURE READING – 2 Sameul 11: 1-15 - CEB**

Linda McCall, Westbank United

### **David and Bathsheba**

<sup>1</sup> In the spring, when kings go off to war, David sent Joab, along with his servants and all the Israelites, and they destroyed the Ammonites, attacking the city of Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> One evening, David got up from his couch and was pacing back and forth on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. <sup>3</sup> David sent someone and inquired about the woman. The report came back: “Isn’t this Eliam’s daughter Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?” <sup>4</sup> So David sent messengers to take her. When she came to him, he had sex with her. (Now she had been purifying herself after her monthly period.) Then she returned home. <sup>5</sup> The woman conceived and sent word to David. “I’m pregnant,” she said.

<sup>6</sup> Then David sent a message to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” So, Joab sent Uriah to David.

<sup>7</sup> When Uriah came to him, David asked about the welfare of Joab and the army and how the battle was going. <sup>8</sup> Then David told Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. <sup>9</sup> However, Uriah slept at the palace entrance with all his master’s servants. He didn’t go down to his own house. <sup>10</sup> David was told, “Uriah didn’t go down to his own house,” so David asked Uriah, “Haven’t you just returned from a journey? Why didn’t you go home?”

<sup>11</sup> “The chest and Israel and Judah are all living in tents,” Uriah told David. “And my master Joab and my master’s troops are camping in the open field. How could I go home and eat, drink, and have sex with my wife? I swear on your very life, I will not do that!”

<sup>12</sup> Then David told Uriah, “Stay here one more day. Tomorrow I’ll send you back.” So, Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day. The next day <sup>13</sup> David called for him, and he ate and drank, and David got him drunk. In the evening Uriah went out to sleep in the same place, alongside his master’s servants, but he did not go down to his own home.

<sup>14</sup> The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. <sup>15</sup> He wrote in the letter, "Place Uriah at the front of the fiercest battle, and then pull back from him so that he will be struck down and die."

**REFLECTION**  
**WE SING TOGETHER**

Rev. Donald Schmidt  
**VU 78** – God Weeps

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Donald Schmidt  
An Adaptation by Jim Cotter

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain Bearer, Life-Giver,  
source of all that is and that shall be.  
Father and Mother of us all,  
loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.  
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

**OFFERING**  
**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Donald Schmidt  
Rev. Donald Schmidt

We are blessed, gracious God, with all the many things you give us. As you have done that, so we offer what we can back to you. Take and use these gifts we pray, Amen.

**WE SING TOGETHER**

**VU 509** – Here I Am Lord

**BLESSING**  
**BREAK INTO CHAT ROOMS**

Rev. Donald Schmidt

# Jazz and Technology Meet Up to Spark Innovation

**We know that the Spirit speaks through music,  
and we are exploring new ways to listen.”**



*A sign outside MacKay United Church directs participants to sonic walk coordinates.*

*Credit: Trisha Elliott/The United Church of Canada*

The meditative walk in the neighbourhood around MacKay United Church located in the nation’s capital kicks off with a quote from 13th-century Persian poet Rumi: “There are many roads leading to God. I’ve chosen that of music and dance.”

There is no live guide speaking the words or playing the music streaming through earphones. Instead, the church’s minister Peter Woods, also a jazz musician, uses SonicMaps, a geolocated listening platform to facilitate the walk. Participants tune in by clicking a link or scanning a QR

code. Turning a corner from one zone in the neighbourhood to the next, the music and message change.

“As the pandemic unfolded, we quickly realized that concerts and other typical ways of sharing music and spirituality through jazz wasn’t going to happen. We transitioned our weekly Kindness of Jazz music and meditation evenings online and embraced other technologies to minister to people safely,” says Woods.

In a traumatized community of artists, these initiatives sparked new relationships. Guest co-hosts and musicians offered leadership from as far away as Ireland, South Korea, and San Salvador.

“I love how vital the connections have become amongst artists, across tech platforms and with spiritually resonant friends. Music, in this context, is the soundtrack to sacred moments and revelations. I feel great joy to witness this work unfolding. Improvised music is so often in service of the sacred, but now more than ever,” says Woods.

Sonic walks and online music collaborations are the tip of the creative iceberg. The last few years have been full. EvenSong, the band Woods plays with, released its album *Songs from the Bridge*, in 2019. The church hosted a bustling night market serving up local food and showcasing the work of artisans beneath a moody cover of white lights and floating jazz. Most recently, Woods released a meditative video called *Arise, My Love* featuring original music coupled with photographs taken by the United Church’s General Secretary Michael Blair.

Many of Woods’ most innovative projects have been supported through the United Church Foundation and Mission & Service Embracing the Spirit grants administered by EDGE Network.

“We know that the Spirit speaks through music, and we are exploring new ways to listen,” says Woods. “In the chaos of this time, there have been many blessings and much creativity. That positive energy is the way forward. We are learning and sharing what we learn with the rest of *the church*.”

*By supporting learning, creativity, and innovation, your gifts help the whole church discern a path for the future. Thank you.*