

Called to Community

Celebrating



Day 6

Psalm 100 ... we are his people

Zephaniah 3:17-20 ... God will rejoice over you

John 21:4-7 ... it is the Lord

Acts 9:36-42 ... Peter showed Tabitha to be alive

After two and a half years of pandemic, we are able to gather face to face. We know what it is to celebrate. Sometimes with caution and other times with abandon, we gather in communities – family, friends, neighbours and strangers – to be with one another for birthdays, weddings, funerals, concerts, sports events and more.

My daughter and son-in-law had an everything party this summer. There were Valentines and Irish flags for St. Patrick's Day, an Easter Egg Hunt, a pinata for birthdays, leaves for Thanksgiving, Halloween treats and a Christmas tree. A friend brought maple sugar leaves for Canada day. Children ran through the house and yard, jumped on the trampoline, danced and played video games. Adults reconnected, made new acquaintances and enjoyed good food. People celebrated the break in the pandemic and being together.

The gathering was not religious in anyway and yet it was holy. Holy in that people came together in gratitude and joy. We live in a time that has blurred many lines, but I trust that whether we are gathered as a faith community singing hymns and praying or as a group of people from many different backgrounds, the Holy Spirit is with us when we are caring for one another and giving thanks for the abundant life we enjoy.

We will feel the impacts of the pandemic for many years to come but the possibilities it brought will be with us too. One of the deep learnings is that coming together in community feeds our spirits. Caring for one another and the earth opens us to know the fullness of life God longs for us and is reason to celebrate.

H. Leffler

For Reflection and Journaling:

1. When have I recognized the Holy in a celebration?
2. Where is God inviting me to celebrate community?

Meditative Prayer:

*Holy Mystery you are Wholly Love,
you created us to be in relationship with you, each other and all of creation.
Help us rediscover and celebrate the joy of being in community. Amen.*