

**Balzac United Church**  
**November 23, 2025, 10:00am**  
**Guest Minister: Rev. Linda Hunter**  
**Music Ministry: Lee Dowan, Dr. Alex Shawn**

**Theme:** *Do Not Grow Weary in Doing What Is Right*  
*As followers of Jesus, we often find ourselves in situations where our faith is challenged by a world that disregards so many, especially those who are not seen to contribute their fair share or who do not work hard enough. The writer of the letter to the Thessalonians, for example, rants against those who eat the bread of idleness. How are we to respond to his harsh words?*

**Prelude**     *Here I Am to Worship*                      arr. M. Hayes

**The Introit**             *Yahweh Be Praised*                      MV #51

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Land Acknowledgement**

As we move ever deeper into the winter season in our part of the world, we take a moment to marvel at the resiliency and strength of the Indigenous peoples who lived on this land, well before furnaces and electricity. The nights would have been cold and frigid, but Indigenous peoples found a way not just to survive, but to thrive through their ceremonies and their art. We honour them today by acknowledging that we share Treaty 7 territory with them and with the Metis Nation, District 5 and 6.

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there."  
Today we light our Christ Candle as sign and symbol of Christ's presence among us, uplifting us so that we do not grow weary in doing what is right and just in this world.                      (the Christ Candle is lit)

### **The Call to Worship**

Welcome in the name of the One who calls us to gather.

Welcome as a participant in this community of faith.

**May the One who calls us be praised.**

**May our community be strengthened.**

Let us sing and pray and share in worship today.

**Opening Hymn**                      *This is the Day*                      VU #412

## **Candles of Joy, Concern and Sorrow**

### **Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**Loving God, our faithful companion on the journey we call life, we are blessed to have you with us on our journey. Deepen our desire to know you better and to hear the words of Jesus. We know you care for us and we know that you love us. Accept the worship we offer to you this day. AMEN**

**Hymn**      *As the Deer Pants for the Water*      VU #766  
(based on Psalm 42)

### **A Time of Child Honouring** *"And God Created Squash"*

Written by Martha Whitmore Hickman

Illustrated by Giuliano Ferri

### **Scripture Reading** **Second Thessalonians 3:6-13**

**Reflection** *Courageously Preaching Against the Text*

**Hymn**      *It Only Takes a Spark*      VU #289

### **Offering Invitation**

During our offering time this morning, you are invited to think of your own journey of faith, your call and your response. As part of your response, you are invited to contribute to the ministry of this church in whatever way is appropriate for you. Our morning offering will now be received.

**Offertory**      *Rain Down*      arr. M. Hayes

### **Prayer of Dedication**

**Loving God, these offerings are part of our response to your call, but they are only one part. We also respond through visits and phone calls, notes written, food shared and prayers on behalf of others. We ask you to bless our offerings and multiply them by your grace. AMEN**

### **Prayers of the People**

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

**Closing Hymn**      *Go, Make a Difference*      MV #209

### **The Blessing And Sending Forth**

As you return to the world,  
carry with you the spirit of Christ.

Cherish him and his teachings.

Share his generous love with neighbours, near and far. **AMEN**

**Postlude**

*Lord of the Dance*

arr. M. Hayes