**Westworth United Church**

an Affirming Ministry located on the lands of

Treaty One Territory

and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation

June 23rd, 2024

*Fifth After Pentecost*

*Marking National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21)*

**We Gather to Worship**

**Welcome**

**Prelude** Aria in G Major Telemann

**Land Acknowledgement** Written by Theodore (Teddy) Fontaine

**From Darkness into the Light**

**That beautiful light shone everywhere Jesus went and it shines bright everywhere we go. That glorious light follows you to work, to church, and to the park. It is a light that supports us and reminds us in good times and in bad that we are loved, cared for, and always belong.**

**May it be so.**

**Call to Worship**

Grace and peace be with you, beloved children of God.

**And also with you.**

We gather today in prayer and thanksgiving for National Indigenous Day.

**Creator, be with us as we journey forward in a good way.**

We share scripture and stories that warm and challenge our heart.

**Creator, be with us as we listen in a good way.**

We sing with lightness and praise.

**Creator, be with us as we respond in a good way.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn** VU 375 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

**Prayer Seeking Reconciliation**

Great Loving Spirit,

You travel with us on so many paths. Some trials are straight and easy to navigate, but others are very difficult, windy, and up steep hills.

**We confess that sometimes, when things get tough, we haven’t always followed your teachings or done things in a good way. Sometimes we found it too taxing to sit still and listen to our Elders for the wisdom they bring. Sometimes we found it too taxing to sit still and listen to our Elders for the wisdom they bring.**

**Words of Assurance**

**Sung Response** MV 96 And When You Call for Me L. Good

**The Peace of Christ**

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn** This Little Light of Mine arr. Pamela Bye

**We Hear the Word**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 43: 1-5

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Scripture:** Matthew 5: 14-16

Hear what the Gospel is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Solo** New Testaments    Brad Nix

**Sermon**

**New Creed**

**We are not alone,**

**We live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God:**

**Who has created and is creating,**

**Who has come in Jesus,**

**The word mad flesh,**

**To reconcile and make new**

**Who works in us and others**

**By the Spirit,**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the church:**

**To celebrate God’s presence,**

**To live with respect in Creation,**

**To love and serve others,**

**To seek justice and resist evil,**

**To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**Our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

** God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** MV 154 Deep In our Hearts FREED

**We Respond to the Word**

**Offering Invitation**

**Offertory** VU 541 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

**Offering Dedication**

**Loving Creator, help us to think about others when we come to this time of giving. Some of us only have a dollar or two or an hour or two to share, but others have so much more. Remind us when we have heaps of love, of time, or of special talents to share that we shine the love of God when sharing them widely. Amen.**

**National Indigenous Peoples Day**

**June 21**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer**

…**Creator, receive our prayers**

We are Spirit first, and that Spirit knows to soar like an eagle, up high in the blue sky.

**Creator, we ask for the grace to lead a faithful life, to walk with a deep sense of spirituality, to live radical hospitality, and to journey forward in a good way, always.**

We pray all these prayers in the name of the one who taught us to say:

**Our Father and Mother, who art in heaven…**

**Hymn** MV 144 Like a Healing Stream B. Harding

**Changing the Light**

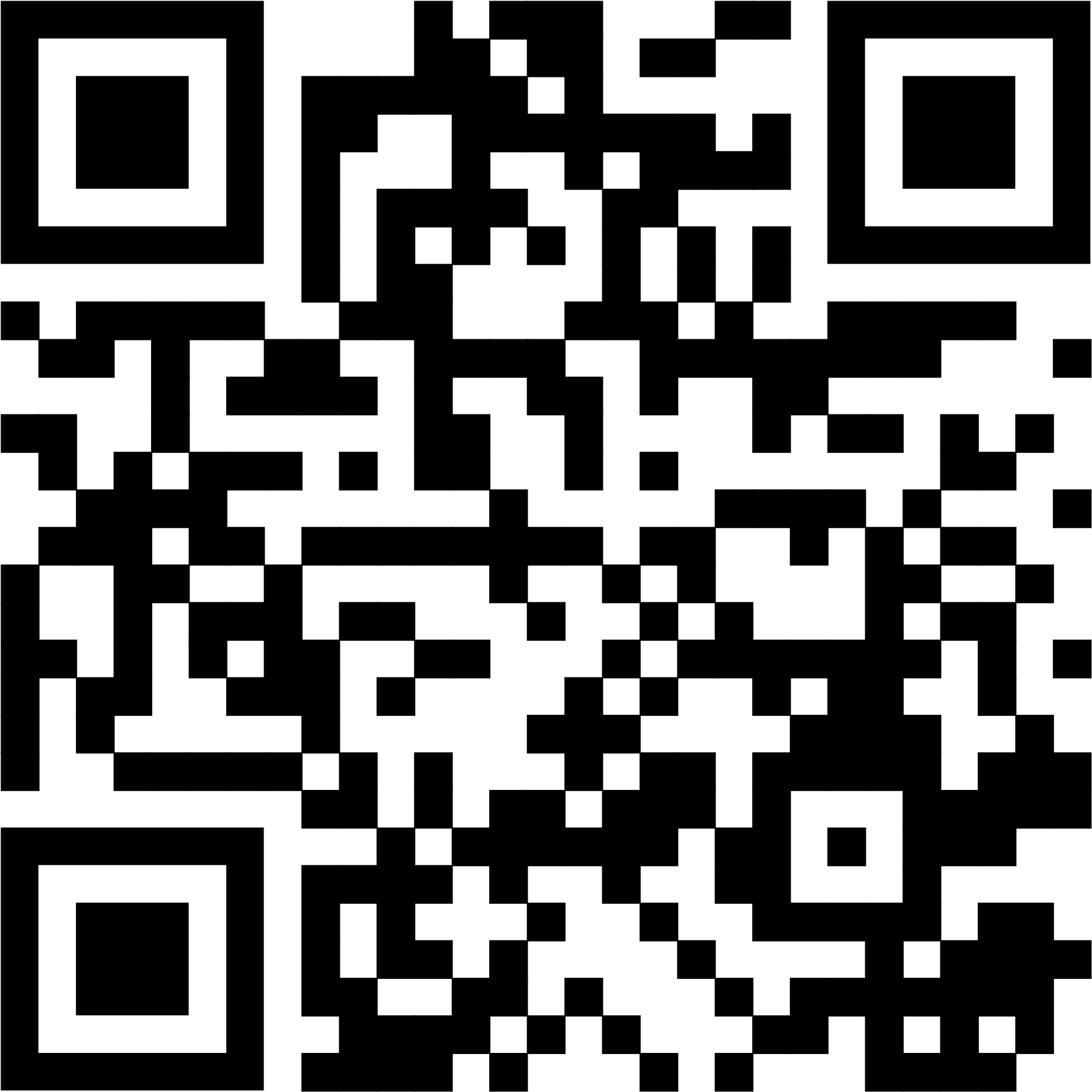
**Extinguishing the Light**

**Blessing**

**Sung Amen** VU 970 Amen

**Postlude** This Little Light of Mine Traditional

Reader: Al Mapes

Soloist: Ruth Wiwchar

Pianist: Megan Dufrat

Director of Music: Valdine Anderson

Coordinator of Children, Youth & Families: Katie Anderson

Minister: Tricia Gerhard QR Code for Westworth donations