



SUMMER WORSHIP  
MONTREAT CONFERENCE CENTER

June 29, 2025, 10:30 a.m.  
Anderson Auditorium

GATHERING

\*Opening Sentences

Gen. 18:12; Luke 1:18, 34; Matt. 19:26

*Imago Dei.*  
*Voluntas Dei.*  
*Caritas Dei.*  
*Auxilio Dei.*

Image of God  
Will of God  
Love of God  
By the help of God

Sarah laughed, and said,  
"How can I bear a child, now that I am old?"  
**With God, nothing will be impossible!**

Zechariah doubted, and said,  
"How can I believe that my wife will bear a child,  
for we are old?"  
**With God, nothing will be impossible!**

Mary marveled, and said,  
"How can I bear a child  
when I have never known a man?"  
**With God, nothing will be impossible!**

Jesus said,  
"With mortals salvation is impossible,  
but with God, all things are possible."  
**With God, nothing will be impossible!**

\*Hymn 463 How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

\*Confession and Pardon

You call us to live in peace,  
**yet too often we sow discord.**  
You call us to have courage,  
**yet too often we choose fear.**  
You call us to hold on to what is good,  
**yet too often to cling to what is easy.**

In the printed order of worship, asterisks \* invite us to rise in spirit or body.

**Words in bold** are for all to say or sing. Congregational songs are found in the pew hymnal, *Glory to God*

In this chant by Mary Louise Bringle and Sally Ann Morris, Latin phrases center us and tell us of God's nature.

You call us to return no one evil for evil,  
**yet too often we nurse hurts and harbor grudges.**  
You call us to support the weak and help the suffering,  
**yet too often we walk by as though we don't see.**  
You call us to honor all people,  
**yet too often we forget we are all made in your image.**

*Silence for personal confession*

Have mercy on us, O God!  
In your deep compassion, forgive us.  
**Cleanse us from our sin,**  
**and free us from following any voice but yours,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior. Amen.**

Believe the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD

\*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Matthew 17:14-20

Holy wisdom, holy word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Contagious Believability" The Reverend John Molina-Moore

## RESPONDING

\*Affirmation

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.  
**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**the love of God,**  
**and the communion of the Holy Spirit,**  
**we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,**  
**whom alone we worship and serve.**

*A Brief Statement of Faith*  
gives us language of  
trust in which to affirm  
and claim God's  
Trinitarian nature:  
Creator, Christ, Spirit.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives, healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted.**

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.  
**In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image,  
of every race and people, to live as one community.**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
**The Spirit engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls disciples to all ministries of the Church.**

With believers in every time and place,  
**we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

#### Prayers of the People

*Imago Dei* is the image of God.  
Diverse and cherished,  
we are made by one God.  
Each gender, class, and race  
reflects God's holy face.  
To see your likeness, help us, O God.

text: Mary Louise Bringle  
music: Sally Ann Morris

*Voluntas Dei* is the strong will of God.  
Of equal standing as we follow our God,  
no longer slave or free,  
we join in unity.  
To work for justice, help us, O God.

*Caritas Dei* is the wide love of God.  
Included gladly in the arms of our God,  
of this, we have no doubt:  
God's grace leaves no one out.  
To welcome others, help us, O God.

These simple lessons are the teachings of God.  
Diverse and Equal and Included by God,  
we rise to righteous calls  
each time we topple walls.  
To live your Gospel, help us, O God.

This chant and anthem  
begin with God: *Dei*.  
Stanza by stanza, they  
sing of God's nature  
and of who we are as  
people created in that  
Godly image.

## Offerings

Hymn 176 – If You Only Had Faith  
*all joining refrain when invited*

FI TUVIERAS FE

*Imago Dei.  
Voluntas Dei.  
Caritas Dei.  
Auxilio Dei.*

This lively Caribbean chorus takes the mustard seed image as the starting point for buoyant, rhythmic singing. Perhaps rhythm helps tell us that things are possible!

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

## SENDING

\*Hymn 741 Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

\*Benediction and Charge

\*Voluntary How Firm a Foundation

arr. Wilbur Held

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