



*You are the best,  
You're amazing, it's true,  
Thank you for everything,  
Happy Mother's Day to you!*

## **Britannia United Church**

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**Mother's Day**

**May 14, 2017**

**10:15 a.m.**

**Meditation:** Sometimes the poorest woman leaves her children the richest inheritance.

**Welcome:** to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please join in the reading if it is **bold** and *italic*. Coffee and Tea are available at the back of the church, after the service.

### **We Gather in God's Name**

**Introit:** : (226, verses 1 and 3)  
For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

### **Announcements**

**Prelude** – In the Garden – Dianne Tupper and Val Baldwin

### **Call to Worship:**

The spirit of God calls us from many places;  
some of us come from busy homes with many people  
some of us live alone.

***We are a part of the family.***

This week has been different for each of us;

some of us have had happy news we want to celebrate  
some of us have faced grief and need to cry.

***We are a part of the family.***

Yet we all come to this same place;  
all of us seeking God's presence in our lives  
all of us seeking God's presence with each other.

***We are a part of the family.***

**Hymn:** Part of the Family (395)

**Mother's Day Call to Worship**

And Jesus said, "Come!"

To all mothers and all children: he said, "Come!"  
to the motherless and the childless: he said, "Come!"  
to all who long to be mothered: he said, "Come!"

Come unto me all ye who labour and are heavy-laden,  
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble of heart  
and you will find rest for your souls."

\* **Hymn:** Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth (320)

**Prayer:**

God, like a midwife - skilled and wise and strong-  
you are always bringing us to birth.

***You nourish and sustain us in the labour of becoming.  
It gives us joy to give you thanks and praise.***

**Anthem** Lead Me

**Theme Presentation**

**Minute for Mission**

## **We Hear God's Word**

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 23 (King James version)

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies:  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

**Message:** A Shepherd's Care

## **We Respond to God**

**Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offertory**

\* **Doxology:** (218, verses 1 and 2)

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,  
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.

When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us  
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

\* **Offertory Prayer:**

Gracious God,  
out of your great love for us  
you have provided for our needs.

***There is food for our tables, clothes to cover us,  
a roof over our heads and someone to love us.  
for these gifts we are grateful.***

***Bless now, our offerings, we ask,  
so that they may be used to care for others,  
and care for our world. Amen***

**Music Offering:** I Believe - Dick Howey and Mary Lou Hulan,  
accompanied by Helen Hutcheson

**Prayer:**

Living God,  
***long ago, faithful women  
proclaimed the good news  
of Jesus' resurrection,  
and the world was changed forever.  
Teach us to keep faith with them,  
that our witness may be as bold,  
our love as deep,  
and our faith as true. Amen.***

**Hymn: God of the Women** (tune: Be Thou My Vision 642)

God of the women who answered your call,  
Trusting your promises, giving their all,  
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —  
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,  
Giving their resources, learning to pray,  
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —  
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,  
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,  
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —

In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,  
Prayed with the others in that upper room,  
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —  
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,  
May we be joyful in answering your call.  
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near  
That we may share in your ministry here.

**Commissioning:** Benediction for Mother's Day

*"As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you"* (Isa. 66:13).

Go now in the comfort and peace  
of the One who gave birth to us.

Go in the assurance t

hat the Comforter is with us always.

Go to give comfort and peace to others.

***Divine Wisdom guide us***

***as we go forth on Her paths of peace.***

***May She give us blessings***

***more precious than silver or gold*** (Prov. 3:13-15, 17).

***May we find joy in sharing  
these blessings with others.***

***May Wisdom empower us  
to change our world! Amen.***

\* **Sung Response:** Threefold Amen

**Postlude**