Classis Meeting: Alberta North – Held March 8&9, 2019

Here in this place, here in this time, we declare

The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.

The world and all its people belong to him. (psalm 24)

In this place and this time, in the province of Alberta, in the nation of Canada, on the treaty lands of the First Nations and Metis, we embrace the call of God

Who may serve the Lord to his praise in this place and in this time?

He has told you, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

So Walk straight, act right, tell the truth.

Don’t hurt your friend, don’t blame your neighbor; Keep your word even when it costs you, make an honest living.

Live as disciples. Form disciples among all peoples. (Psalm 15 Message)

We are grateful for the gift in Christ that enables us to embrace our call

since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 5)

those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires… the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace. (Romans 8)

Still this land and this place cries out awaiting the day of redemption

We lament

That those descended from the first inhabitants of this land have so often experienced discrimination, injustice and harm at the hands of those who entered it… and suffer still

That many, including us, still use words and practice deeds that bolster or fail to protest the racism, bullying and demeaning of persons in our communities,`

That influence of the gospel of Christ is diminishing in the public life of our nation in this time and in this place

That many, including us, suffer under the burdens of addiction, the brokenness in relationships, the damaging power of misdirected desire,

Yet though the healing power of the gospel is often neglected in our nation and among us,

We rejoice that our God reigns and will gather all things into Christ (Eph 1:10).

We embrace the redemptive call to be and make disciples, to transform lives and communities in Christ.

We hope for the day when all things are new.

Maranatha. Come Lord Jesus.

We gather in the name of Triune God. Receive the greeting of God:

SONG: O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed with every blessing.

Before the foundation of the world, in love, in Christ, you adopted us children, forgave our sin, made us holy in your sight, and gave us a rich inheritance in the eternal kingdom.

**In Christ, you revealed the mystery of your will to gather up all things in Christ, things on heaven and things on earth.**

We rejoice that Christ is above every rule and authority and power, that all things are under his feet, that Christ is head of the church.

We praise you that the one in whom all things were made, fills the church which he has gathered from all the peoples of the earth.

**In Christ, we received the seal of the Holy Spirit.**

**We rejoice that the power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead**

**is at work in us to enlighten, empower,**

**and transform us for the sake of his glory.**

And so we declare with the angels and all your people

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,**

**to receive power and wealth**

**and wisdom and strength**

**and honor and glory and praise!” [[1]](#footnote-1)**

On the night on which Jesus was betrayed,

he sat at supper with his disciples.

While they were eating, he took a piece of bread,

said a blessing, broke it, and gave it to them with the words,

“This is my body, which is for you.

Do this to remember me.”

Later he took the cup, saying,

“This cup is God’s covenant,

sealed with my blood.

Drink from it, all of you, to remember me.”

We remember Christ:

Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the sharing of the bread that we break and the cup that we bless may be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ, our Lord. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Sharing the bread and wine

Song: Eat this Bread

Prayer for Classis

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

**Now to him who is able**

**to do immeasurably more**

**than all we ask or imagine,**

**according to his power that is at work within us,**

**to him be glory in the church**

**and in Christ Jesus**

**throughout all generations,**

**for ever and ever! Amen. [[2]](#footnote-2)**

**Song: My Jesus I Love thee**

1. [*The Holy Bible: New International Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/niv?ref=BibleNIV.Re5.12&off=32&ctx=+voice+they+sang:+%0a%E2%80%9C~Worthy+is+the+Lamb%2c+) (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1984), Re 5:12. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [*The Holy Bible: New International Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/niv?ref=BibleNIV.Eph3.17&off=58&ctx=arts+through+faith.+~And+I+pray+that+you%2c) (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1984), Eph 3:17–21. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)