

Treaty Acknowledgement

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. (Romans 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; and

that many, including us, suffer under the burdens of addiction, the brokenness in relationships, and 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.