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Take a moment to quieten yourself, and to prepare for worship, bringing your heart and mind to this time with God. (You may light a candle for your time of worship)

Today's service is provided by our friends from Camp Kintail We thank them for their energetic ministry

# The Fruits of the Spirit

# Welcome – Theresa MacDonald Lee

Good morning!

It is wonderful to be sharing worship with your congregation this morning from the shores of Lake Huron at Camp Kintail. Camp Kintail is the Presbyterian camp for the Synod of Southwestern Ontario. This morning the amazing staff at Kintail will be sharing more about the fruits of the Spirit that they have experienced at camp. We hope that this service brings you joy and a chance to worship God.

# **Traditional Territory Acknowledgment**

We acknowledge with gratitude the territory upon which we live, work, and camp at Camp Kintail. Kintail is on the traditional territory of the Saugeen First Nation. We are all treaty people, and Treaty 45 ½ of 1836 covers the area of Camp Kintail. This beautiful territory includes Lake Huron and all the rivers, streams, and creeks that are part of the watershed. We remain grateful for and mindful of the first people who loved this place and who love and protect it still.

We acknowledge that The Presbyterian Church in Canada was a part of the residential school system. Along with the church, all of us at Camp Kintail seek a new relationship with the First Nations of this land, one based in truth, respect, and reconciliation.

#### **Call to Worship**

Please repeat after me: It's a great day (It's a great day) For being alive (for being alive) Alive in the Lord (alive in the Lord) Who calls us to love (who calls us to love) And be loved (and be loved) To share gifts (to share gifts) And feed the world (and feed the world) Hallelujah! (Hallelujah!) Amen and Amen! (Amen and Amen!)

#### Song: Jesus is the Rock

#### **Prayer of Approach and Confession**

(with actions from the Fruits of the Spirit song)
O God, when we are with you, we find love.
When we are with you, we find joy.
When we are with you, we find peace.
When we are with you, we find patience.
When we are with you, we find kindness.
When we are with you, we find goodness.
When we are with you, we find faithfulness.
When we are with you, we find gentleness.
When we are with you, we find self-control.

Help us to stay with you. (sign language for Lord)Help us to know that you are always searching for us. (Hands up on forehead, searching)Help us to know your Spirit. (sign language for Spirit)

When we do not have self-control, forgive us.
When we do not have faith, forgive us.
When we do not share goodness, forgive us.
When we do not share kindness, forgive us.
When we do not offer patience, forgive us.
When we do not share peace, forgive us.
When we do not share joy, forgive us.
When we do not share love, forgive us.

In Jesus name, Amen.

#### Assurance of Grace

As far as the east is from the west, so have our sins and shortcomings been removed from us. We are loved, forgiven, and made new in Jesus' name! Thanks be to God.

## Song: How Great Thou Art

**Scripture** (images from nature at camp through this section) Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20 – New Revised Standard Version

I cry aloud to God,

aloud to God, that he may hear me.

- <sup>2</sup> In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.
- <sup>11</sup> I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.
- <sup>12</sup> I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.
- <sup>13</sup> Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?
- <sup>14</sup> You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples.
- <sup>15</sup> With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.
- <sup>16</sup> When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; the very deep trembled.
- <sup>17</sup> The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered;

your arrows flashed on every side.

- <sup>18</sup> The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.
- <sup>19</sup> Your way was through the sea, your path, through the mighty waters;

yet your footprints were unseen.

<sup>20</sup> You led your people like a flock

by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

#### Scripture

Galatians 5:22-23 – New Revised Standard Version By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

#### Galatians 5:22-23 - The Message

But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

#### Reflection

If you have spent any time at Kintail over the last number of years, you will certainly have heard and sung "The Fruits of the Spirit."

(Do the first verse and chorus of The Fruits of the Spirit)

The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control – and most of our campers know them off by heart!

All of us at Kintail work hard to provide an environment where the fruits of the Spirit are able to grow and flourish.

I've asked some Kintail staff members to reflect on times when they have experienced or witnessed the Spirit's work.

I pray that these stories will remind you of your own days at Camp Kintail, or at CGIT or PYPS or a church retreat.

# \*\*Camp staff share personal stories of how they have experienced the Fruits of the Spirit\*\*

#### **Gentleness: Titan**

Hey everyone, the fruit of the spirit, I'll be talking about today is gentleness when i was a counselor I spent a lot of time counseling the youngest boy's cabin which was often

Tumbleweed. These boys had so much energy all week whenever possible

they would throw rocks break sticks and all kinds of running around it was always amazing to me when we went

to the bunnies and everything shifted to show that gentleness the boys would use really soft voices they would pick up the bunnies really softly hold them to them it was always very cute in a very stark contrast from the rest of the week

#### Kindness: Chasm

I see kindness at camp when campers are willing to help each other out with things like archery or the big games we play and are willing to help all of their group achieve their goals rather than just themselves

#### Self-Control: Theresa

Self-control is always one of those fruits of the spirit that is sort of like the black sheep of the

family but one of the examples of self-control I experienced here at Kintail was when we had a school group come in and they were here for a couple of days and the group of boys was assigned a counselor to sit with them at their table and the boys were just grabbing and

reaching things all across the table and the counselor very quickly got everybody to sit down

and he taught them how to pass things around the table he taught them how to share. He

taught them to use their cutlery and how to stack the plates at the end of the meal and how to look after the whole table and I was sitting with one of the teachers who said to me,

these boys don't have this at home they don't eat meals at a table with other people,

they eat in front of the tv or in front of the computer and she was so impressed and so glad that this counselor had taken the time to teach them how to sit at table together

#### Patience: Hydra

I'm sure I'm not alone in finding patience to be one of the trickier fruits of the spirit to grow. For myself it's wonderful at camp to see so many opportunities for it though at arts and crafts kids take hours building bracelets that they don't keep they give away so all of that time and energy and effort to give to someone else and they wait in line for super exciting things like a zip line or the slide and instead of getting antsy or trying to cut they talk to each other about how fun it's going to be and how much fun they had yesterday and what they can't wait to do this afternoon patience happens in those really high energy exciting times but I really loved a particular moment in a cabin when it was a bunch of young girls and a lot of them needed help with their shoes the counselors were helping to tie and an older camper went up to one of the girls who needed some help and said oh do you want me to teach you and I thought wow I often am quick to accidentally just jump in and do the

thing, so to see a child have the

thoughtfulness and compassion and patience to not just offer to do the thing but to teach someone else how was so, so sweet and it made me stop and realize maybe there are more times in my life where if I was a little more thoughtful and a little more patient other people would have more room to grow.

other people would have more room to grow.

#### **Goodness: Sound**

So, we have lots of fun campfires here and most of the time everyone's in a happy joyous mood. There was one time where I was counseling a younger group of campers

and one camper was looking pretty sad he was missing home a little bit and then another camper in my cabin sat down on the bench by him and he gave him a quick pep talk and they stood up and started singing down at Kintail.

#### Joy: Beebalm

There are so many places at camp where joy can be so evidently seen and I think two of my favorites are when campers are going down the zip line for the first time

and I think also when they're splashing around and having a good time in Lake Huron you can just see the joy light up on their face and it's such a beautiful part of camp.

#### Peace: Theresa

Oftentimes we think of camp as just being this loud joyous place and it is, but camp also offers many opportunities for peace and contemplation. One year during our senior camp, so our oldest campers who had been awesome all week long but had been really busy all week long were gathered together for our final worship and we had done a traveling worship service where we began in one spot and then walked through the camp in silence to different worship centers and we ended on the beach and all of the campers were invited to spread along the shore of Lake Huron and to spend a few minutes in quiet prayer and to give thanks for the week that they had just finished and to ask God for help and support as they were about to begin a new year of high school and it was very beautiful as the sun was setting and the sunset was there and all of the campers spread along the edge of the beach in quiet connection and communication with God and it's a moment of peace that I will never forget

#### Love: Flame

There's so much goodness and love at Camp Kintail but a time that really stood out to me

is when we had school groups visiting the camp. I was in the lodge talking to a teacher

and there were other school groups and students and teachers moving around the

lodge it was the beginning of the day and I heard excited screaming and squeals coming from the other side of the lodge which isn't an unheard sound at Kintail.

Then the teacher that I was speaking to also started to laugh and squeal in excitement

and these two teachers ran towards each other in the lodge and embraced and were saying I didn't know you would be here and it turns out that these two teachers were campers at Kintail together and had always stayed in touch and in their careers and their lives.

They stayed together because of Kintail and they met this day in the lodge with their students and they had no idea the other would be there and instantly I got tears in my eyes and I cried in front of the teachers and I just kept saying this is camp, this is the magic of camp, this is the love that comes from meeting as young people at Kintail and the goodness that continues as we go out into the world and out into our lives

Good fruit happens when we live in God's way.

When we nurture the seeds and weed away what is not serving us or God. When we prune and shape our branches so nests can be built and new life nurtured.

When we receive and share gifts for community's sake.

Good fruit changes the world.

Thank you for being part of the ministry at Camp Kintail.

Thank you for bringing good fruit into the world to serve God's beloved children. Amen.

## **Prayer for the People**

God,

You have given us so many gifts and so much good fruit.

We are thankful for those who have shown us love and been patient with us:

- Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles
- Community and chosen family
- Friends and co-workers

We are thankful for those who offer kindness and gentleness:

- Teachers and professors and early childhood educators

- Nurses and doctors and respiratory therapists
- Librarians and swim instructors and grocery store cashiers

We are thankful for those who share joy and generosity:

- Artists and musicians and actors and performers
- Children and elders
- Neighbours and camp staff

We are thankful for who are faithful:

- WMS members and leaders
- Mission partners around the world
- Church members and clergy and youth ministers

We are thankful for so much.

We are grateful for the fruit we have been given, now guide us to share what we have.

Help us to live in Your way, O God.

May we encounter the world as Christ does:

- With reverence for each creature.
- Creating beauty and wonder.
- Finding joy in every living thing.

May we see God's people through God's eyes:

- Those who are struggling.
- Those who are grieving.
- Those who are sick.

May we reach out to the world with Christ's hand:

- With a gentle touch for those who are unloved.
- With food for those who are hungry.
- With clothes for those who are cold.

May we offer the gifts of the Spirit to those in need:

- Those who need love and rest.
- Those who are scared and hurt.
- Those who Help us to live in your way, O God, so that the world may receive the gifts of the Spirit.
- May our lives become good fruit
- In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### Song: Making Melodies

#### **Benediction and Blessing**

Go out today to live in God's way – bringing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control to everyone you meet.

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you both now and forevermore. Amen.

#### Song: The Blessing Song

#### Announcements:

Welcome back to in person worship for North Pelham – please note at this time in person services will alternate between churches. The next in person service at North Pelham will be Sunday September  $26^{th}$  @ 11:00 am

Rockway will resume in person worship next **Sunday, September 19th @ 9:30 a.m.** Please RSVP to the church email: northpelham.rockwaypc@gmail.com Or call the clerk of session – Donna Bachur 905 892 6167 All Social distancing requirements – including the wearing masks for indoors will be followed.

Please read the attached letter regarding Rev. Marian and some changes in our future. More information to follow as it becomes available. Please keep Rev. Marian in your prayers!

#### Moment for Mission – Sunday September 12, 2021 - An Education for Robina

Robina lives with her mother, father and five siblings in a make-shift house in Afghanistan. Both of her parents are unemployed, and Robina is the only member of her family attending school. In Afghanistan, 62 percent of children do not attend school. Often, families with many children cannot afford uniforms and school supplies for each child. Girls are especially disadvantaged because of a shared cultural belief that if girls study, they bring shame on their families. Only one in five students in Afghan schools are female, and only about one in 10 adult women are literate. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) is passionate about ensuring a world in which all children can access quality education. Working with local partners, PWS&D helps parents and religious leaders understand girls' rights—most importantly, the right to education.