

**Rio Terrace Church
Order of Worship
Spiritual Renewal of Moravian Church
August 16, 2026**

Rio Terrace Church is an inclusive, community-oriented church in the Moravian tradition. Our mission is to be “a community of spiritual journeyers who are experiencing, growing in, and living the love of God as shown in Jesus Christ.”

We humbly gather on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of diverse Indigenous peoples including Cree, Dene, Nakota Sioux, and Metis. We honour their enduring connection to this land and commit to respecting and learning from their histories and cultures.

Theme: Size Matters – How Big is your God?

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

***Call to Worship (adapted portions of Psalm 133)**

How very good and pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

It is like precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard.

It is like the dew of Hermon,
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing;
life for evermore.

***Hymn of Gathering: On Wings of Morning**

1. On wings of morning our prayers and devotions are soaring.
All of creation awakens, the Maker adoring.
Join in the song. Harmonies blending along,
vigour and life now restoring.
2. God of our yesterdays, God of today and tomorrow,
God of all joy, and yet present in trouble or sorrow,

Emmanuel! "God with us!" Good news to tell!
All earth our gladness may borrow!

3. Now as one people we gather in awe to implore you.
Children and youth, men and women, we come now before you.
Partners we stand, scattered or joined hand in hand,
seeking your will, we adore you.
4. We praise you, God, the Creator of people and pleasure.
We praise you, God, for through Christ you show love beyond measure.
Spirit, abound! God-head sufficient surround!
Making our life a rich treasure.

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Centering

Poem:

A few thoughts on the majesty of God are found in this poem.

Awesome God by Mark Meck

Built from nothing has everything come from love
This earth, the sun, the moon and all stars above
By Thy word commanded, the world was wrought
O Lord, how awesome thou art.

Rain from clouds fall, to the earth and lakes below
And flowers in summer bloom, obedient to nature's law
How beautiful nature is, that by word is this canvas of art
O Lord, how awesome thou art.

All these worldly wonders in six day you made
From the moon and the stars, and the sun that never fade
I wonder on which spindle is supported the sun that its heat will not melt?
O Lord, how awesome thou art.

How awesome that I was created, from dust and the breath you gave
How fearful these signs of life, that in death we cannot relive
I wonder how at the cross of cavalry, the same death you defeat
O Lord, how awesome thou art.

How much would the blind give that they may see?
How much more the lame that they may walk: but to me, all for free!
To the righteous and sinners alike, your blessings you impart
O Lord, how awesome thou art.

Musical Meditation

Listening

Scripture readings

First Reading: Joshua 24:16-24

Gospel Reading: John 17:1-2, 6-19

Message: Rev. Rob Key

Responding

***Hymn of Response: We Are One in the Spirit**

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

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Holy Communion

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Creator, God our Redeemer, and God our Comforter, be with you all.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation.

Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you.

Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him.

On the night Jesus was betrayed, he took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

(Bread distributed)

Jesus said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

(Bread consumed all together)

By your divine presence,
By the holy sacraments,
By the merits of your life, sufferings, death, and resurrection,

Bless and comfort us, gracious and loving God. Amen.

In the same way, after supper Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

(Cup distributed)

Jesus said: Drink from this, all of you. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

(Cup consumed)

Christ, the Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant to us your peace.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim that Love wins!
AMEN.

Sharing Together – Blessings, Concerns, Spirit Sightings

Praying Together

Sending

***Sending Forth Hymn: There's a Spirit in the Air**

1. There's a Spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
 "Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world."
2. Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done:
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.
3. When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed,
 praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.
4. Still the Spirit gives us sight, seeing wrong and setting right.
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.
5. When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home,
 praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.
6. May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways.
 God in Christ has come to stay, live tomorrow's life today.
7. There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:
 praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

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***Benediction**

Postlude

*Please stand as able