

St. Paul's United Church, Edmonton

May 14 2023 at 10:30

Music to draw us in

Candle lighting *Neighbours and friends, welcome home.*

Call to Worship and Welcome *We wave at church friends online.*

Land acknowledgment

Over My Head AFRICAN-AMERICAN MV 88

Announcements Paul Preston, Marion Brenner, and Don Retson

Prayer, spoken then silent, followed by the prayer Jesus taught

A moment of instrumental music

All Things Bright and Beautiful ROYAL OAK VU 291

Top of the Staircase

Children and youth go to their programs

Acts 17:22-31 religious people

There's a Spirit in the Air LAUDS VU 582

In God we live and move and have our being

Anthem *If I Could Read Your Mind* GORDON LIGHTFOOT

Offertory *Pussy Willows, Cat-Tails* GORDON LIGHTFOOT

Blessing the offering

Prayer

I Feel the Winds of God Today KINGSFOLD VU 625

Benediction

Rev. Dr Catherine F. MacLean and Rev. Anna Constantin
Music Director: Susan Farrell and Musician: Tyson Kerr
Livestream/AV tech: Logan Smarch, Samantha Engler, Kate Florian
Children's Program Leader: Rondy Kyle
Flowers this month: Margaret Russell, Lorene Turner

On the Areopagus (Acts 17:22-31)

On our tour bus in Athens
a woman with mobility impairment
had such trouble getting off the bus
at most archeological sites
she chatted with the driver
while we climbed the rubble.
The tour director told us
she was with us because her husband,
her sister, and her sister's partner
would not leave her,
and she wanted for them
to have the experience.

But on that last day she wore
the heavy braces
and climbed the Areopagus Hill,
not many steps to most of us,
who climbed it quickly,
before the more important Acropolis,

but her pilgrimage
was to see the place
where Paul gave the speech
that everyone in the world
has the instinct to seek God,
find even an unknown god,
and be loved.

Paul's words always touched people,
(maybe not so many as Peter
with his five-thousand mega event)
but on this hill of argument,
there were only two –
Damaris and Dionysius,

and, of course, Elaine from Texas, who sometime, somehow
had found the Unknown God and wanted to say, "thank you".

Maren Tirabassi