**Moderator’s Pride Message 2025**

## **Pride and a Place at the Table: Showing Up with Love and Strength**

### **Transcript of Video Message**

As we gather in celebration of Pride Month, I want to use this opportunity to honour the diversity, beauty, resilience, and tenacity of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Pride is a strong statement of our humanity, value, and right to love and be loved. It is also a time to draw strength from our collective voice and pay tribute to the elders of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and those leaders who followed in their footsteps.

The severe realities that 2SLGBTQIA+ communities face globally cannot be disregarded: a society that still devalues our lives, exacerbates the promotion of anti-2SLGBTQIA+ laws, and attacks on queer spaces and people, particularly Indigenous, Black and brown, queer, and transgender women.

As the United Church of Canada marks 100 years of deep, bold, daring justice this year, we continue to show up with love and strength on the streets, in our congregations, and in our communities. We are here. We are fighting. We are loving, and we are creating. We are called to costly, prophetic solidarity by our faith to uphold our commitment to human dignity, equity, and respect.

We also acknowledge that intersectional collaboration is critically needed. As a church, we are committed to working with global partners, faith communities, and advocacy groups to address the pressing challenges of our time. But this is not just about challenges. It’s about possibility, about what we can build when we come together—diverse, dynamic, and united.

So, this Pride Month, let us reaffirm our dedication to justice, inclusion, and radical love. Let us keep fostering connections, establishing safe environments, and addressing hate with fearless and creative solutions. The United Church of Canada stands with you—now and always. And together we will continue the work of creating a world where everyone—absolutely everyone—is embraced, honored, and celebrated for who they are.

Happy Pride!