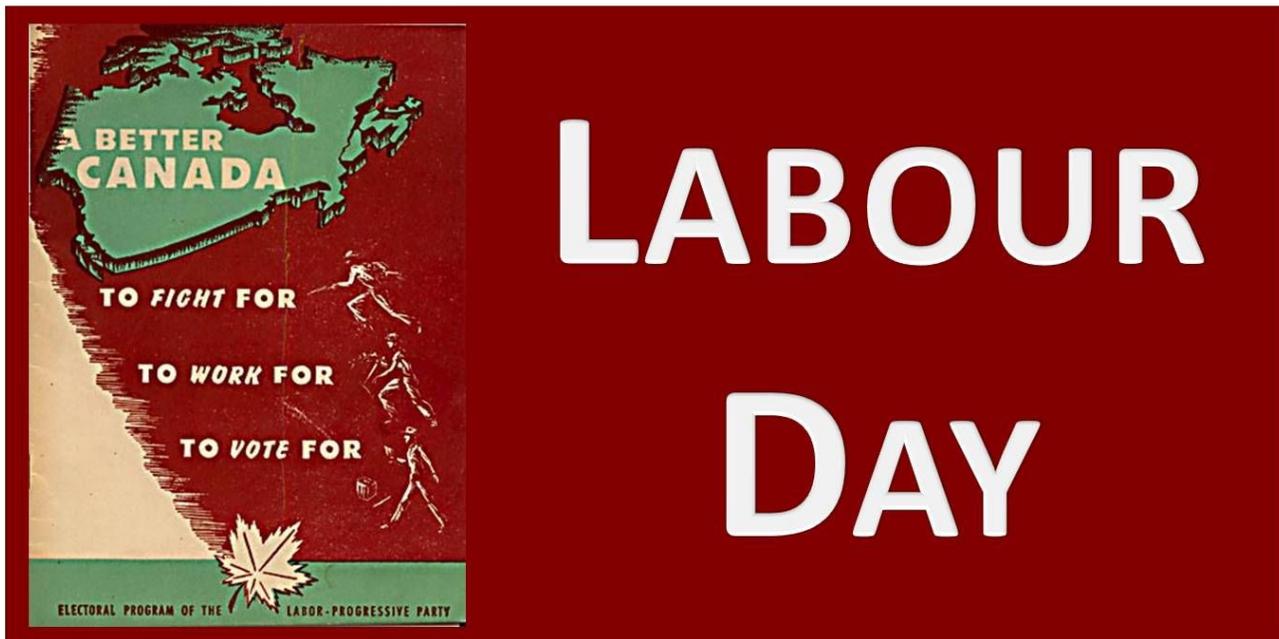


# Sunday 06 September 2020 – Labour Day



## **Land Acknowledgement**

We gather here mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home or depended on its trails for safe passage. We know this community as Fernie; it is also the unceded territory of the Ktunaxa people. May we be good and gracious guests of this corner of Creation.

## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

This candle dances with the presence of the Spirit, reminding us of the warmth of the community in which God calls us to gather and the light that shines with wisdom, insight and clarity for us in our time of worship.

*Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, NT*

## **Call to Worship**

One: Come into worship this last Sunday of summer.

All: We come in anticipation of a year ahead filled with times of faithful activity, refreshing renewal, and quiet contemplation.

One: Come to encounter once again the living God among us.

All: We come, ready, willing and excited to encounter the God who dwells with us and among us.

One: Let worship begin!

*Catherine Tovell, London, ON*

## **Opening Prayer**

A prayer as I put on my mask:

Creator,  
as I prepare to go into the world,  
help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of this cloth -  
let it be "an outward sign of an inward grace" -  
a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbours,  
as I love myself.

Christ,  
since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart,  
that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes.  
Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly,  
not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit,  
As the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully -  
and full of care - to all those I meet.  
May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner,  
and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love.

In your Name and in that love, I pray.

May it be so.

May it be so.

*Right Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator of the United Church of Canada*

## **HYMN – VU460 – All Who Hunger**

All who hunger, gather gladly, holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for day of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker be, a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing. Here in pace, we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table lives their lives in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

### **Prayer of Illumination**

Good God, Generous God, God the Giver of All Gifts,  
holy is your name.

Today we assemble:

some feeling buoyant, some sinking under the weight of of life;

some full of confidence, some insecure and hesitant;

some joyous, others sad – but we are here.

So, we open ourselves to you.

We wait to receive your word proclaimed for our lives today.

We wait to meet, in scripture and in community,

your good news for our lives.

AMEN.

*Kate Gregory, Belwood, ON*

### **Reader: Judy Harrold**

## READINGS FOR THE DAY

### Exodus 12.1-14

#### The First Passover Instituted

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly.

It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

## Romans 13.8-14

### Love for One Another

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

### An Urgent Appeal

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

## Matthew 18.15-20

### Reproving Another Who Sins

'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

### **HYMN – VU245 Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet**

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,  
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,  
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,  
praise the Lord in the city square,  
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,  
praise the Lord in the dark of night,  
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,  
praise the Lord on the highest hill,  
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing symbol,  
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,  
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,  
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,  
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,  
praise the Lord in the time of joy,  
praise the Lord every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,  
praise the Lord in your work or play,  
praise the Lord everywhere in every way.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan - "Hurry?"

**We Responding in Giving and Gratitude**  
**Our Church Tithes and Offerings**

**Call to Offering**

Jacob knew what it meant to struggle to find meaning in his life. We often struggle to find the meaning of stewardship. How do we divide up the gifts of time, talent and money that you have given us so that they can become part of the blessing you have promised to us and to the world?

Wrestling, but committed to our giving we present our offering.

*Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC*

**Hymn of Thanksgiving**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures high and low

Give thanks to God in love made known

Creator, Word and Spirit one!

If you wish to make a donation to support our ministry  
please send a cheque  
or e-transfer to:

Knox United Church  
Box 1808, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Christ Church Anglican  
Box 279, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
christchurchferniefinance@gmail.com

## **A New Creed**

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.

We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.

## **Prayers of the People**

Petition and **Response:**

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love**

God of love and mercy, be with us as we gather in these uncertain times.  
Calm our minds, give us the deep peace we seek as we yearn to know you.  
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those front line workers; hospital, health unit, police, ambulance  
and EMT's; grocery clerks, pharmacists and their assistants who are testing  
their own health that they may keep us safe, fed and supported.

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those in the Elk Valley who care for our corner of creation.  
For our Mayor, Ange; our Premier, John; and our Prime Minister, Justin.  
For Adrian Dix and Dr. Bonnie Henry.

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those who lead us in small and large ways.  
For our Conference Minister Kathy, our Regional Minister Treena, our  
Regional Council President Blair, and for our Moderator, Richard.  
For our Regional Dean Neil, our Bishop Lynne, our Metropolitan Melissa,  
and for our Primate, Linda.  
For the Pacific Mountain Region, for the United Church of Canada.  
For the Diocese of Kootenay, for the Anglican Church of Canada  
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless and protect those who are on our hearts today.  
Who's names we offer to you silently or aloud -- PAUSE  
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Be with those who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are separated  
from their families. We give thanks for those who have recovered from the  
virus. We pray that for those whom cure is not possible, that their death  
may be merciful, swift and gentle.  
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

God of Mercy be with those who will die this day. Draw them into your  
arms and let them know they have found a home with you.  
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

**Joining our prayers and praises together,**  
Let us pray the prayer our Saviour taught us...

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

## **HYMN – MV154 Deep in Our Hearts**

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is common longing;  
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
flowing to freedom like a stream.

## **MINUTE FOR MISSION – Mary Elson**

### **Commissioning**

Go into the world  
prepared to catch a glimpse of Jesus in your midst,  
prepared to let others catch a glimpse of Jesus in you.

*Sue Webb, Selkirk, ON*

### **Extinguishing the Christ Candle**

Our time together has come to an end,  
we now go about the rest of our day,  
knowing in small and in large ways,  
we are connected to each other, through you, O God. Amen

*Andrea Brennan, Fernie, BC*

## **SENDING HYMN – MV90 Don't Be Afraid (2x)**

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,  
my love is stronger than your fear.  
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,  
and I have promised, promised to be always near.

**Upcoming this week...**

Monday 7 September – Labour Day

Tuesday 8 September – Reverend Andrea at Knox United

Wednesday 9 September – 10:00 am – Stuff kits @ Knox United  
Noon – East Kootenay Regional Council (ACC) by Zoom

Thursday 10 August – Reverend Andrea at Christ Church  
Noon – Greater Clericus – Noon (by Zoom)

Friday/Saturday – Reverend Andrea's Sabbath

Sunday 13 – 10:00 am – Worship (Anglican-style) (by Zoom)

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Pentecost 1, 2020, Voices United and More Voices. Candle extinguishing prayer and Prayers of the People written by Reverend Andrea Brennan.