

4 July 2021 - Communion Sunday - 6th after Pentecost



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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 and Métis Nation. May we be good and gracious guests of this corner of Creation.

Lighting the Christ Candle

The light is all around us - a sign of the season for us as northern people.

(light the Christ candle)

The flame of this Christ candle reminds us of the beauty and presence of the light that paints the sky, bathes the land, and brightens our path.

Thanks be to Creator for fire and sun, for flame and symbol, for the light of Christ.

Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, NT

Call to Worship

On this 154th Canada Day, God invites us into the complexities of relationship.

We come to grow as a family of faith, cherishing the ways of Love.

Come to sing, to dance, to pray, to listen, and to deepen the journey of faith.

We come in trust, though we are never sure where God will lead us.

Come together in prayer:

loving God, we long to follow Jesus' footsteps, journeying the path of self-giving and of ever-growing wisdom, seeking out reconciliation and right relationships with the First Nations.

Lead us by the power of your Spirit, that together, each supporting one another, we may follow. Amen.

Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, 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

Opening Hymn - VU213 v.1, 2, 4 - Rejoice the Lord is King

Rejoice the Lord is King! Your risen Lord adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing in triumph ever more.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice rejoice again, I say rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love,
when he had purged our sins, he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice rejoice again, I say rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ the judge, shall come
to glorify the saints for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Prayer of Confession

When we think we don't measure up, our loving God speaks to us in love. The risen Christ leads us on while equipping us to lead, feeds us so we may feed, and welcomes us so we may welcome. The challenging Spirit whispers words of guidance so we may teach and fills the hidden depths so we may reach into the depths and hearts around us.

Words of Assurance

We are prepared in love. We are filled with forgiveness. We are renewed through divine mystery. Thanks be to God.

Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, ON

Reader: Mary Elson

Reading: Mark 6.1-13

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

The Mission of the Twelve

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Hymn of Praise – MV157 v.1, 4, 5 I Am a Child of God

I am a child of God, I am a glimpse of God's new creation,
I am a child of God, I am a child of God.

I am an angry voice, I am compassion and consternation,
I am an angry voice, I am an angry voice.

I am a song of joy, I am the moment of jubilation,
I am a song of joy, I am a song of joy.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan - Nobody from Nowhere

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude

Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Invitation to Offering

As we have been loved, so may we love others.
As we have been fed, so may we feed others.
As we have received from God's hands blessings
beyond measure, may we also generously share
with one another and with God's world.

Amen.

Karen MacNeill, Vernon Bridge, PEI

Please support our ministry by 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
christchurchfernief@gmail.com

Your Generosity Matters: Celebrating Deaf Culture
Presented by Mary Elson

Communion Hymn – MV193 v.1, 3 - Long Ago and Far Away

Long ago and far away Jesus lives and worked and prayed
healed the sick and the fearful and lonely, lived his life to show God's way.

Stretched his arms out as he said: Fill the cup and share the bread
Remember me in love and joy and blessing.

Jesus called all his friends to be with him share the bread and cup again
life to you I will offer it gladly love will be with you right to the end.

Stretched his arms out as he said: Fill the cup and share the bread
Remember me in love and joy and blessing.

Communion Liturgy

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God.

We must give thanks to God our Creator!

God's creation blesses us all.

All that is sacred, all that is holy, come from You, our living God.

When we cannot be physically together because of a pandemic, you are there.

You created order from chaos, your children from clay, and blessed us
with minds to think, hearts to love and mouths to speak.

Even when we fail you; even when we disappoint ourselves, you are there.

Loving us through the chaos, standing us up when we fall down.

Remaining with the remains of children discovered in a mass grave.

Giving protection to those who are traumatised from generations old hurts.

Protecting us from the evil in the world; you are there.

And so, we join with the chorus of heavenly bodies as we say;

Holy, holy, holy God, Holy and blessed are you.

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Glory to you, O God most high.

And so, as we gather from around this fragile earth

our island home to celebrate the night you made the ordinary, extraordinary.

That fateful night, at supper with his friends,
Jesus took the ordinary bread,
bread they had shared many times before.

He took it, blessed it, broke it and said
"This is my body, broken in love for you".

Jesus took the cup, what was left from the meal,
a meal shared many times before.
He raised it, blessed it and said
"This is my blood, shed for eternity.
When you take this bread and this cup,
remember that I am with you always.
A covenant and promise I make, to never forsake you".

And so, as we take this ordinary made extraordinary
this bread and cup, God's promise and love,
broken and poured, blessed and shared,
joining us together as a spiritual family.

**Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

We take our bread, or that which represents Christ's body.
We take our cup, or that which represents Christ's blood.
When we consume these, we will never be the same.
We will become closer to you, dear God, and to each other.

We thank you God, for the many blessings of this Earth.
We ask you to pray for those we carry on our hearts this day.
We ask you to be with those who need your strength,
and to those you call home today,
may those they leave behind always know your 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**

Distribution of Communion

Taking the Bread, Pouring the Cup

The bread of Christ

Broken in love for us.

The cup of salvation.

Our way to eternal life.

The elements are consumed.

Commissioning

Arise, friends, and come away!

Give your hearts to the One who made them.

Give your spirits to the One who delights in them.

Give your souls to the One who strengthens them,
and follow in the way of Jesus Christ,

this day and every day. **Amen**

Kate Crawford, Grand Bend, ON

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

As we move from this time of community and communion

**we hold in our hearts those who are with us in person,
on screen and in our hearts,**

knowing that one day, we know not what day,

**we will be together again, not necessarily as we wish,
but as we are able. Amen**

Andrea Brennan, Fernie, BC

SENDING HYMN – MV90 Don't Be Afraid

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 5 July - Worship Prep and Administration

Tuesday 6 July – Andrea+ at Knox United

2:00 pm - Joint Ministry & Personnel Committee Meeting by Zoom

Reverend Andrea on 10 days of Time Away from the 7th to the 17th of July.

In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Lynda Bird.

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Pentecost I, 2021, Voices United and More Voices. Candle lighting, and Communion Liturgy written by Reverend Andrea Brennan.

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