

# 4 September 2022 – Labour Day



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## Opening Hymn – MV85 x 2

### Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me.

## 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.

We strive for reconciliation with our Indigenous siblings, and pray that the Creator will guide our way.

## Lighting the Christ Candle

We carry our Christ candle with us as we live our daily lives. We carry it acknowledging our unique gifts and limitations. We carry it into our own shadows. We carry it as we live into the pathway of discipleship to which we are called. Yet sometimes we become distracted. At times, we get lost in digression. At other times, we become disillusioned and set it aside in order to go our own way.

**Today we intentionally light afresh the Christ candle within us and among us, naming it's light as grace, promise, hope, and full life, a strength and power for today and tomorrow. Thanks be to God.**

*Bill Perry, Havelock, ON*

## Call to Worship

God whispers a message of unbelievable hope.

We have felt God nudge us and hold us!

God reveals amazing grace!

Slow down – look around – listen – notice – feel – God is in our midst.

**Praise be! The Lover abides with us!!**

*Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, BC*

## Opening Prayer

There are no words for the things that break us open, strip us naked in the glare: for birth and death, for joy and grief,

for the madness of the lost or for the lightning of love.

There are no words for the lash of beauty cutting without warning from sky or land, stealing the breath; for the stark cold of midwinter midnight along in the desert of the self hollow with dread; or for the lightning of love

sudden or slow, blue flame piercing mind and bone.

We need words whose power in the throat rises like the welling of ancient water from the roots of the earth, wise with the secrets of fire and stone;

words for what lives in the eyes of the newborn or the dying or the mad;

words for the breaking open, for the glancing merciless terror

and the unrelenting glory; words for the lightning of love.

*from Celebrate God's Presence*

## Prayer of Confession

We seek to be inspired by mentors in our Christian discipleship. This is as it should be. Yet we know our journey of faith is unique; it can't be fully the same as anyone else's. Its boundaries are what we reach for as followers of Jesus, even as we experience our failures and limitations and our reluctance to reach beyond the boundaries we have created. Let us invite the fullness of God's grace into this time of confession. Let us pray.

*Bill Perry, Havelock, ON*

## Words of Assurance

Know this: our God is faithful in all things. God's faithfulness guides us through our doubts. God's trustworthiness holds us in our fears. Let us trust the love of our God to be with us now and always.

Thanks be to God.

*Frances Flook, Emo, ON*

## Prayers for Illumination

Your glory is revealed in many ways, O God. In the beauty of sunsets, in the caring hands of others, and in the face of a child, we experience your love revealed.

Now reveal your glory through the sacred story we are about to encounter.

Open our hearts to your word so that we are inspired to live in your way. **AMEN**

*Beth W Johnston, Nipawin, SK*

## Reader: Suzanne Artley

## Reading: Jeremiah 18.1-11

### The Potter and the Clay

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 'Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.' So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn of Praise – VU642 v. 4, 5

### Be Thou My Vision

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
grant God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, after victory is won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

## Sermon: The Reverend Canon Andrea L. Brennan "Beneath the Potter's Hands"

### Prayers of the People – Norma Bayer

Loving God,  
you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
Hear our prayers:  
for the hungry and the overfed  
**may we have enough;**  
for the mourners and the mockers,  
**may we laugh together;**  
for the victims and the oppressors,  
**may we share power wisely;**  
for the peacemakers and the warmongers,  
**may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony.**  
for the silenced and the propagandists,  
**may we speak our own words in truth;**  
for the unemployed and the overworked,  
**may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;**  
for the troubled and the secure,  
**may we live together as wounded healers;**  
for the homeless and the pampered,  
**may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;**  
for the vibrant and the dying,  
**may we all die to sin and live to love. AMEN**

*from Celebrate God's Presence*

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude  
Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Offering Prayer

Bless, O God, these gifts we offer, shared with open palms rather than clenched fists and given out of gratitude rather than out of obligation.

May they offer life and abundance to any in need and inspire further generosity through the giving and receiving.

We are grateful for this opportunity to give and do so in Christ's name. **AMEN**

*Elise Feltrin, Chemainus, BC*

Please support our ministry by cheque or e-transfer to:

Knox United Church  
Box 1808, Fernie, BC VoB 1Mo  
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Christ Church Anglican  
Box 279, Fernie, BC VoB 1Mo  
christchurchfernie@gmail.com

Your Generosity Matters: "A Church with an Extraordinary View"  
Presented by: Mary Elson

Communion Hymn – MV481 v.1 - Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing, our truth faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended, O now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us  
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.

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!

**The Creator 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.

When we lament our physical distance from each other, you comfort us.

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. Calming us as we live with a virus, we were certain would be over by now.

Staying with the remains of children discovered in multitudinous unmarked graves. Giving protection to those who are traumatised from generations old hurts. Reminding us that there are alternatives to war as the world struggles for peace.

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 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  
"Take this cup, the cup of salvation.

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. A moment of silence follows.*

### Commissioning

Move out in the world, work in the world, rejoice in the world,  
but don't let the world take you over. Be open to God, and, in sharing with your  
neighbour, reach always for God's grace. **AMEN**

*George Allan, Chatham, 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**

## Sending Song - VU884 You Shall Go Out with Joy

You shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you,  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field  
will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the fields will clap their hands,  
the trees of the fields will clap their hands,  
while you go out with joy!!

### Upcoming this week...

Monday 5 September – Catch up Admin and Worship Planning

Tuesday 6 September – Andrea+ at Fernie Knox United

Office Hours

Noon – Meeting re Kootenay Cluster gathering Worship

Wednesday 7 September – Andrea+ at Christ Church

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist and Saint of the Day

11:30 am - Office Hours

Thursday 8 September – Worship and Homiletic Prep

1:00 pm - Funeral for Dina Dominick at Cherished Memories

Friday 9 September -11:00 am - Clergy Conference Planning Committee

Saturday 10 September – Catch Up and Sermon Writing

### Next Worship

Sunday 11 September – 10:00 am – Morning Prayer Outside in the Grove

Hosted by Christ Church, Fernie – Blended Worship

Please bring a lawn chair, sun hat, a blanket and a water bottle

### Resources

The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from:

Gathering: Pentecost 1 - 2022, Celebrate God's Presence, Voices United and More Voices.

Candle lighting, extinguishing and Communion Liturgy written by:

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