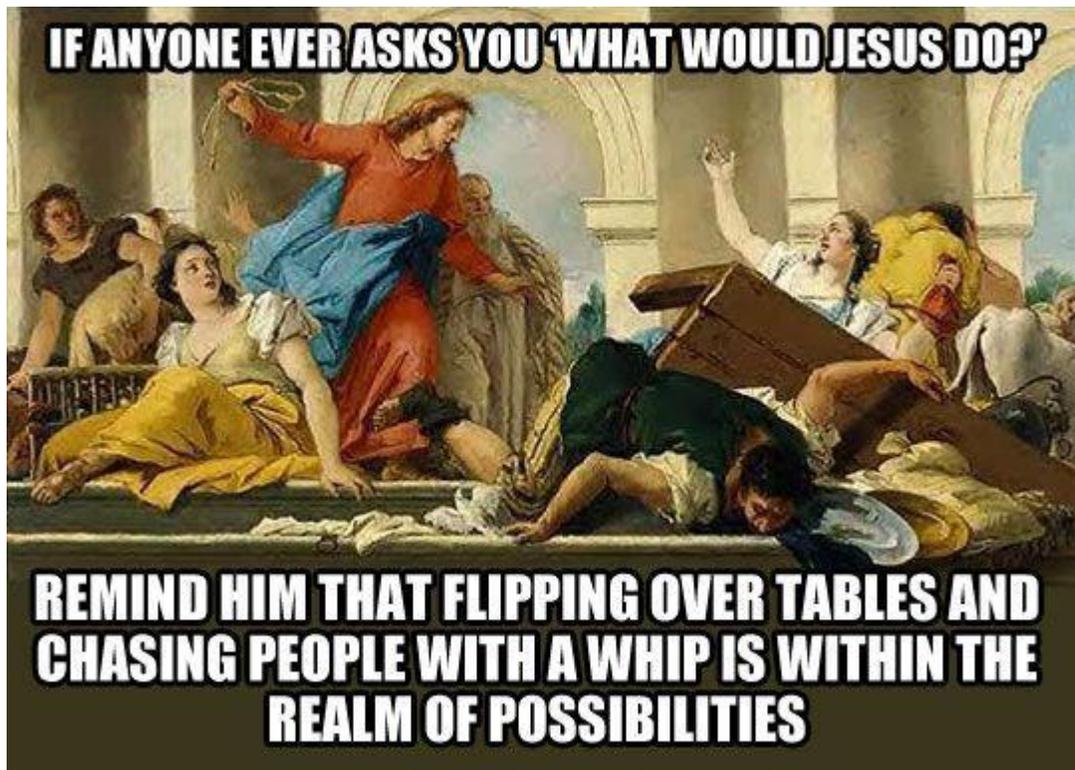


7 March 2021 - Lent 3 - Communion Sunday



#### 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

Light and warmth are returning to the land outside these walls. Light and warmth are represented in the light that glows from this flame. May the symbol of this lit candle remind us of the reality of the land and light and warmth of our presence with God.

*Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, NT*

### Call to Worship

After the flood, God's tears mingled with ours  
 and God choked, "Never again."  
 God promised, "Never again,"  
 and from a light and the mist of those mingled tears,  
 God made a rainbow.  
 A bow in the sky to draw us out beyond our sorrow  
 and remember the promise of all we do not notice:  
 the holy ephemerals of our common humanity  
 and the God-given colours of love.

*Sandra L. Stickney, Naramata, BC*

### 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 – VU117 Jesus Christ is Waiting v.5**

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,  
 "Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet."  
 Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.  
 Walk one step before me, I will follow you.

### Prayer of Confession

The days are surely coming, says God,  
 when I will make a new covenant with you,  
 one that you will be able to keep.  
 I will put it right inside you in your hearts  
 and it will become second nature to everyone.  
 It will be as if the old days fell into the ground  
 like a seed and died so that the new days would  
 come with new hope.  
 This is our good news today. Thanks be to God!

*Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC*

### Words of Assurance

Jesus proclaimed that God's love was abundant and free.  
**For God so loved the world.**  
 We are loved.  
**No one or no thing is outside of God's love.**  
 Thanks be to God. Amen!

*Beth W. Johnston, Nipawin, SK*

Reader: Ev Cutts

## READING OF THE DAY

### John 2.13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**Hymn of Praise - VU642 Be Thou My Vision v.2**

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife,  
I ever with thee, and thou in my life,  
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan - "Jesus Temple Tantrum?"

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude

Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Call to Offering

Take these signs of our covenant with you, O God,  
our time, our talents, our treasure - the way we  
use everything you have gifted to us in abundance -  
blessing it all to become blessings for the world.

**Amen.**

*Fraser Williamson, Port Loring/Golden Valley, ON*

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 - Esbikenh's Story - Mary Elson**

**Communion Hymn – VU480 v.1**

Let us break bread together on our knees,  
let us break bread, together on our knees.  
When I fall down on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

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 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.

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.**

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The elements are consumed.*

Commissioning

Go from here to be the people of God:  
 go in the knowledge and love of God  
 to tell the good news of a new covenant.

**With God in our hearts,  
 we will live Christ's reign of peace and justice.**

*Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, ON*

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

As the days continue to grow shorter  
and we are spending more time in darkness  
we extinguish these candles,  
knowing that as the days will eventually lengthen  
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 8 March - Worship Prep and Administration

Tuesday 9 March – Andrea+ at Knox United

Wednesday 10 March – 10:00 am – Zoom Saints Day Worship @ Christ Church  
Office Hours

Thursday 11 March – Worship and Homiletic Prep

Noon - Greater Clericus by Zoom

7:00 pm - Fernie Pride Society AGM

Friday 12 March - 11:30 - 1:30 pm - Susan Beaumont Workshop Week 2 of 4

Saturday 13 March - Andrea+'s Sabbath

Sunday 14 March – 10:00 am - Zoom Worship from Christ Church

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Advent - Christmas - Epiphany 2020 - 2021, Voices United and More Voices. Candle extinguishing prayer and Communion Liturgy written by Reverend Andrea Brennan.

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