

Sunday 19 September 2021 - Creation 2



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

Lighting the Christ Candle

There once was a wonderful man who did wonderful things and they said, "He is the light of the world."

The Christ Candle is lit.

Scott Martin, Georgetown, ON

Call to Worship

On this Sunday in Creation Time,
We come before our Creator God with praise!

Let us rejoice in the fields!

Let us rejoice in the forests!

Let us thank the Divine One for our many gifts!

We lift up our hearts in praise!

Susan Tyndall, Delburne, AB

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 – VU296, This is God's Wondrous World

This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is God's wondrous world, I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.

This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair,
in the rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems off so strong, God is the ruler yet.

This is God's wondrous world; why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!

Prayer of Illumination

Open wide our hearts, open wide our minds,
open your word to us this morning, we pray;
let your holy light shine upon it and through it,
bringing us light and life. **Amen**

Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC

Reader: Orlan Weber

A reading from Psalm 1: The Two Ways

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.
They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the letter of James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a - Two Kinds of Wisdom

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Friendship with the World

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN – MV41 O Beautiful Gaia

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Soil yielding its harvest, O Gaia, calling us home.

Soil yielding its harvest, calling us on.

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Waves crashing on granite, O Gaia calling us home.

Waves crashing on granite, calling us on.

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Pine bending in windstorm, O Gaia, calling us home.

Pine bending in windstorm, calling us on.

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Loon nesting in marshland, O Gaia, calling us home.

Loon nesting in marshland, calling us on.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan -

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude
Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

God calls us to be part of this world,
not only to partake but also to contribute to it,
reflecting God's love for all creation.

Let's give to God the best of ourselves,
the first fruits of our labours, if you will.
Let us gather and present our offering.

Sheryl McLeod, Admaston, ON

Hymn of Thanksgiving – MV144 Like a Healing Stream

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding
promising revival and rebirth...like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden;
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
yearning for an end to want and need....like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war....like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide.
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!

Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

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

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 hope – **Open our hearts to love**

God of love and mercy, be with us as we gather in these uncertain times.
The pandemic is drawing to an end, the world is beginning to re-open.
Calm our minds, give us the deep peace we seek as we yearn to know you.
God, as we hope – **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 tired from carrying
never-ending stress during the pandemic, and who seek deep rest and peace.
God, as we hope – **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 all candidates in our upcoming federal
election.

For Adrian Dix and Dr. Bonnie Henry.

God, as we hope – **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 Archbishop Lynne, 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 hope – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless and protect those who are on our hearts today.

Those who have received, are waiting to receive the vaccine.

Whose names we offer to you silently or aloud -- PAUSE

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

Bless those who have received their first and second doses of the vaccine. Give
patience to those who are still waiting. Bring calm to those who are uncertain whether
or not to receive the vaccine.

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

Paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

Your Generosity Matters - “Where Food & Community Grow” - Mary Elson

Commissioning

May the blessing of God,

who made us in love and for relationship with one another and all creation;

the blessing of Jesus,

whose footprints are deep on our earth and deep in our hearts;

and the blessing of Spirit,

who blows through us and all around us,

go with us this day, this night, and always.

Go, blessed.

Go, be a blessing. **Amen**

Bob Root, Peterborough, ON

Extinguishing our Candles

As we move from this time of community in communion

we hold in our prayers 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 – Masithi: AMEN

SING AMEN: **Amen we praise your name O God**

SING AMEN: **Amen, we praise your name O God**

SING AMEN: **Amen Amen, Amen Amen, Amen we praise your name O God**

MASITHI: **Amen, Siakudumisa**

MASITHI: **Amen, Siakudumisa**

MASITHI: **Amen, bawo, Amen, bawo, Amen Siakudumisa**

Upcoming this week...

Monday 20 September - Administration and Worship Preparation

Tuesday 21 September - Office Hours at Knox United Church

2:00 pm - Knox Worship Committee

Wednesday 22 September - Worship at Christ Church, Office Hours to follow

3:30 pm - Knox United Board Meeting

6:30 pm - AMA (Ask Me Anything) at Fernie Arts Station (Elk Valley Pridefest)

Thursday 23 September - Noon - Greater Clericus

5:30 pm - Flag Raising at City Hall (Elk Valley Pride Festival)

Friday 24 September - Andrea+'s Sabbath

Saturday 25 September - 7:00 pm Virtual Stage to Screen panel discussion (EVP)

NEXT WORSHIP – 26 September - 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday Eucharist Service/Interfaith Service

hosted at/by Christ Church Anglican

Credits:

The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Pentecost 1, 2021, Voices United, A New Zealand Prayer Book, and More Voices. Prayers of the People and Extinguishing prayers written by Reverend Andrea L. Brennan ©2021.

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