

1 August 2021 - Communion Sunday - 10th after Pentecost



www.rirchardblackaby.com

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

Oh, warm and comforting flame, sparkle, sparkle now!

Guide us into safe soul refuge

Though shadows prevail, in mood or mind, we follow the light into the calm.

How we long for and look for this light, and flickering, here it is:

Christ -- the light of day -- the bright and comforting twinkling night light,
the infinite and lovely flame of serenity. We welcome you, Light of Christ.

Jani Francis, Indian Head, SK

Call to Worship

Come into this electronically connected space -- from couch or office, from comfy recliners or favourite rocking chairs, from kitchens or bedrooms. The risen Christ welcomes us all.

We come as we are -- unshaven or well coiffed, dressed up or in jammies, eating brunch or brushing teeth. Though separated by distance, we come as one.

Come to worship across the distance, but united in faith.

We come to listen, to sing, to pray, and to rejoice.

Come, then as we join in prayer with our loving God:

Loving God, as we worship together, may you forge among us deeper relationships in creative ways, may you journey with us as we learn to connect through technology, may you breathe into our souls the hope of your good news, may you teach us to thrive while staying home. Show us that your might resides in our all, in Jesus' name. 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 - VU508 v.1,2 Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea all I need, in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Creator, in this incredible time of uncertainty, many of us have given into our fears of loss: loss of material wealth, of physical possessions, and of choice, freedoms, and connections to those around us. In our fear, we hoard more of the things we think are important, like food and money; ignoring the potential needs of others, and leaving them without. Help us assuage these fears and the ones we hold in our hearts. Finally, help us remember that your abundance is always with us.

Amen

Lorna Corzine, Levack, ON

Words of Assurance

Receive God's hope for you today. You are forgiven! You are valued! You reside in the palm of God's hand.

Thanks be to God!

Sheila Winegarten, Lion's Head, ON

Reader: Lynda Bird

Reading: 2 Samuel 11.26-12.13a

Nathan Condemns David

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.'

Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you

your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

**Hymn of Praise – VU664, v.1,2
What a Friend We have in Jesus**

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan - "Who, Me?"

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude
Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Invitation to Offering

We have been blessed;

let us give so that the blessings may be shared.

Amen

Beth W. Johnston, Nipawin, SK

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: Mission and Service, Transforming Lives
Presented by Mary Elson**

Communion Hymn – VU460 v. 1,2 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 days 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.

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 multitudinous unmarked graves.
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

In the midst of a world filled with clamour and boasting, may our faithful presence be for others a quiet moment filled with the love of God that reveals the good news of the kingdom of God to those who are searching for hope.

Amen

Sandy Ferguson, Edmonton, AB

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 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 2 August - STAT Day Off

Tuesday 3 August – Andrea+ at Knox United

11:00 am - Interment for Ron Bath

1:00 pm - Office Hours at Knox

4:00 pm - Pre-marriage meeting for Laura and Matt

Wednesday 4 August - Andrea+ at Christ Church

10:00 am - Saints Day Worship (by Zoom and outdoors, behind Christ Church)

11:00 am - Office Hours at Christ Church

5:30 pm - Christ Church Worship Committee

Thursday 5 August - 11:00 am at Christ Church, Cranbrook

Blessing Elements for an upcoming service

Friday 6 August - 3:00 pm Pre-Marriage Meeting with Colin and Jill

Saturday 7 August - Andrea+ Sabbath

Sunday 8 August - 10:00 am Worship, Broadcasting from Christ Church

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Pentecost II, 2021, Voices United and More Voices. Candle lighting, and Communion

Liturgy written by Reverend Andrea Brennan.

CCLI License – Knox United Church #3172609

CCLI License – Christ Church Anglican #11186206