

First United Church

12th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2019

Worship Leader Darlene Cockerill, Cheryl Perry
Music Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford, Janet Watson
Greeters Myrna McRae, Verna Richards, Sue Sullivan
Ushers..... Linda Gilmour, Karen Hawkey, Bobbie Tough
Sound System..... Carl Stef
Projectionist Benita Worley
Coffee Hour Martha Jane Lewis, Judy Valks
Minute Person..... Tami McMurphy

Welcome Table in the hall after worship - Information about activities and services we offer at First United.

Prayer Cycle - This Sunday, in the annual rotation, we join with other churches to pray for Crossroads United Church in Delta.

Offering Counters Today – Ron Green, Linda Munce, Kathleen Smith.

Peace & Justice Table in the hall after worship - Environmental issues, urgent actions & Fair-Trade items.

Healing Ministry - Please contact Judy at 250-862-0712 for appointment.

Here we gather to seek, know and express God's love in an open community which embraces diversity. Through the use of language, imagery, and metaphors that are inclusive of gender, sexual orientation, race and ability, we affirm that all of creation bears the image of God.

Gathering

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell, Welcome, Announcements

Introit "Greet the Dawn With Joy" (*Sunshine 14, x2, Keri Wehlander*)

Greet the dawn with joy, this day's a gift for you.

Watch for signs of hope, for each day is made new.

As a lake reflects the sky above,

so you are mirrors of God's love.

Greet today with faith, for God delights in you.

Call to Worship (responsive)

This is the house of God, and we are, by Christ's invitation, the guests.

Yes, God of Creation, Majesty and Glory, we are, by saving grace, your guests.

Sing to God who is our strength! Shout and cheer to the God of deepest joys!

Today we come to praise and be in awe of you. We come to worship you.

This is the house of God so lift up your songs, make joy with your voices, play the instruments and let the drums roll!

We are invited, and in turn we invite each other to worship, celebrate and praise God! All are welcome in this place!

Hymn "Let Us Build A House" (More Voices 1)

Prayer of Reconciliation (Unison)

God of Wholeness, we have become fragmented and are uncomfortable. We are so busy completing our 'To Do' list each day that we forget to do good when we have the chance. Instead we build up walls and hide ourselves from others: their pain is too much to deal with; their struggles are too much to bear. We can be so proper, so good, so well-off, that

it's easy to imagine we're superior to the underprivileged. We'd much rather just sit in the seats of honor focusing on our own lives, our jobs and our families. But God, you have called us to be your people, a people of the Covenant in which you are *our* God, not only *my* God. You have called us to be the people of the New Commandment, which is to love one another. We cannot go it alone. Forgive us, Welcoming God. Fill our selfishness with your grace and humility that so that instead we spend our lives alongside you, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, and the oppressed thereby participating in the healing of the world. In Jesus' name we pray...Amen.

Words of Hope

Sung response "Spirit God, Be Our Breath" (*More Voices 150, vs. 4*)

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.

Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.

Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn.

Spirit God, be our song.

The Peace

Word

Luke 14:1, 7-14 (*Moira Pritchard*)

Word for all Ages

Hymn "Long Ago and Far Away" (*More Voices 195*)

Children leave for Sunday school

Reflection

"Guess Who's Coming For Dinner?" – Darlene Cockerill

Thanksgiving

Silence/A Time of Musical Reflection

“Where’er You Walk” from *Semele* – G.F. Handel

Offertory “Though I May Speak” (*Voices United* 372, vs. 2 & 3)

**Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.
Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship and are freed.**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

The gifts we give today are but tokens of the blessings we know flow so generously from the spirit of God. May these gifts be a symbol of our ministry in this place and beyond to reach all of God's beloved people. AMEN.

Prayer of Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer (*Voices United* 959)

Sending Forth

Hymn “Come, Touch Our Hearts” (*More Voices* 12)

Blessing

Commissioning “As We Now Go” (*Seasons Vol 6, Stephen Fischbacher*)

**As we go now from this moment,
as we leave behind our time together.
May we walk with one another,
may we help each other on the way.**

**As we go now from this moment,
as we go into the future together.**

**May we treasure one another,
may we realize how precious we are.
May we realize how precious we are.
May we realize how precious we are.**

Postlude "Alleluia" from *Exsultate Jubilate* – W.A. Mozart

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:
Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33

Thrift Store – Volunteers needed. Please call Linda Gilmour 250-212-7738 if you can help. The Thrift Store opens for the fall season on Tuesday Sept. 3.

Walk & Talk - Fall is coming, so its time to return to Walk and Talk. Once again, we will meet on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30 -11am. First session will be September 11. Registration will take place following worship on Sundays September 1 & 8. For more information about Walk & Talk please check the First Word or call Pat at 250-768-0791.

The food cupboard for our Tuesday/Thursday crowd is bare. Please consider bringing a case of soup or macaroni and cheese. Everything helps and is very appreciated!

Multi-Church Potluck Picnic – September 29th after the 10:00 am service. This is being held by Rutland, St. Paul's and First United. Meet at Mission Creek Park field by EECO Center. Bring food to share, a lawn chair and your own dishes/cutlery. For more information contact Nancy Hillmer 250 765-8776. Nancy.hillmer1@gmail.com

Retreat facilitators announced - our Fall Women's Retreat is being held on October 18-20, 2019. We are returning to the Naramata Centre for the location of the retreat. Our facilitator will be Ivy Thomas and our music facilitator will be Frances Chiasson. Brochures are now available. There is a table set up in the hall. Please stop by and pick up a brochure.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED
SEPTEMBER 1 - 8, 2019

Today	8:30AM Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM Worship: Sanctuary
	11:15AM Refreshments: Hall
Monday	Office Closed for Labour Day
Tuesday	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	10:00AM Thrift Store re-opens
Wednesday	11:00AM Pastoral Care: 12
	2:00PM Stewardship: 12
Thursday	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	4:00PM Outreach Core Ministry: 14
	7:00PM Alleluia Singers rehearsal: Sanctuary
Friday	
Next Sunday	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Recovenanting Sunday Intergenerational Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry