

First United Church

2nd Sunday of Creation

September 8, 2019

Worship Leaders Nikki Attwell, Cheryl Perry
Music Alleluia Singers, Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford
Greeters Dwila Rose, Jean Simons, Dorie Trimble
Ushers..... Marian Hamilton, Ken Ottoson, Marlene Spicer
Sound System..... Deanna Peck
Projectionist
Coffee Hour Lois Lashmar, Roy Lashmar

About Today's Service – This morning's worship service is for all ages. Our Infant & Toddler care room is available for children who do not wish to remain in the service.

Recovenanting Fair in the hall after worship today! 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 Esquimalt United Church in Victoria.

Offering Counters Today – Audrey Beal, Dave Bertetic, Maggie Craig.

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

Ringling 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.

Introduction to the Season of Creation

Call to Worship (responsive)

The longer days are shortening

Calling us to pay attention

The crops are ripening

Calling us to gather

The leaves are turning colour

Calling us to a new season

As we notice Creations' changes we are mindful that you, God,
call us into community that is always changing and growing

Let us worship the One who calls us!

Hymn "Come In, Come In and Sit Down" (Voices United 395)

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

People: **Dear God, I want to thank you for always being so loving and forgiving. I trust you and know you will always be ready to listen to me. I try to be your friend, but sometimes I'm not very good at it. I forget about you. I forget to do the things that you want me to do. I forget to love the people around me. I forget to treat your Creation with care. I'm very sorry. But I promise I will try harder, and I know you will help me. Your loving friend, (*your name*)**

Words of Hope

Sung response "Song to the Spirit" (*Seasons Vol 1, vs. 3*)

**Spirit of love, larger than law, quick to forgive,
keeping no score,
Come from within, come make us one,
Come and renew the face of the earth, face of the earth.**

The Peace

Word

Word for all Ages

"The Great Parade" by Richard Avery & Donald Marsh

Luke 14:25-34

Hymn "We Are the Church"

(All God's Children Sing, Donald Marsh & Richard Avery)

Re-Covenanting Ritual

Thanksgiving

Silence/A Time of Musical Reflection

"September Song" – M. Anderson

Offertory "God, Whose Farm is All Creation" (*Voices United 300, vs. 1*)

**God, whose farm is all creation, take the gratitude we give;
Take the finest of our harvest, crops we grow that all may live.**

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Creator God, you are the source of all we have. You have entrusted us with much. May these offerings support the ministry of this church and your work in the broader church family and around the world. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession (responsive)

Leader: Transform us, through your Spirit...

ALL: and empower us to change our ways.

The Lord's Prayer (Voices United 921)

Sending Forth

Hymn "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" (Voices United 265)

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

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Numbers 21:4b-9; Psalm 98:1-5;

1 Corinthians 1:18-24; John 3:13-17

Recovenanting Sunday Come by the 'fair' in our Hall today to find out about all of the exciting programs happening in our church this Fall: midweek programs for children and youth, register for Sunday School, sign up for a Bible study, handbell choir, and more! Stay for coffee and a slice of birthday cake to celebrate the birthdays of Nicholas Tschense and Nathanael Bertetic!

Trees are For Life

Trees are marvelous!

They are there for our constant admiration

However, they are continually destroyed

For building a nation.

Trees provide us with such intimate life.

They give us the very oxygen we breathe.

Yet we choose to harvest and clear cut...

Trees must remain for our planet to sustain!

-written by Nicholas Tschense, 5 years of age; from The Oneness Gift by beloved Susan Seel and beloved Nicholas Tschense, © 2015

Fall Needs for the Food Cupboard

Items especially needed this month include oatmeal, canned fish or meat, rice, cream of mushroom soup, canned vegetables, school snacks (granola bars, apple sauce cups). We are also looking for some people who shop regularly at Save-On-Foods, Superstore, and Walmart, who might be willing to do some bulk/case lot purchasing for our Food Shelf from time to time. We would provide a list and reimburse you for the items. Please contact Cheryl by phoning the Church Office (250) 762-3311 or emailing cherylperry@telus.net

Walk & 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 today. For more information about Walk & Talk please check the First Word or call Pat at 250-768-0791.

Fair Trade Table The 1st Sunday of each month, we will be selling coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil, soap and Za'tar spice (Palestinian thyme). Proceeds for the coffee & tea go towards our church's coffee expenses & proceeds from the Palestinian products go towards our scholarships in El Salvador.

Outreach Bulletin Board: Please come & have a look at our re-vamped Outreach Bulletin Board which will have monthly Social Justice themes as well as information on Reconciliation & honouring indigenous people. September's theme will highlight the work of the Central Okanagan Refugee Committee (CORC).

Big Book Sale for El Salvador This fundraiser for our scholarship program in our sister community of El Triunfo will be held on Saturday, September 21 from 9 – noon in the church hall. We have three Big Book Sales per year to raise monies towards this project and are looking for donations of **newer soft over books** – please no hardcover books at this time. We also need helpers the morning of the sale and to set up on Friday at 1 p.m. To donate or to volunteer please call Pat McPhee at (250) 869-4839. Muchas gracias.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED SEPTEMBER 8 - 15, 2019

Today	8:30AM	Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM	Recovenanting Sunday Intergenerational Worship: Sanctuary
	11:15AM	Refreshments: Hall
	1:00PM	Youth Group kick off pool party: the Hetland's
	3:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry
Monday	10:00AM	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
Tuesday	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	2:00PM	Isabel Leitch Unit: 14
	7:00PM	Education Core Ministry: 14
Wednesday	9:00AM	Walk & Talk: 14
Thursday	8:30AM	Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	12:00PM	Men's Group meeting: 14
Friday	9:00AM	Walk & Talk: 14
Next Sunday	8:30AM	Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM	Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM	Refreshments: Hall
	3:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry