

# First United Church

---

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Creation

September 15, 2019

---

Worship Leaders ..... Darlene Cockerill, Cheryl Perry  
Music ..... Alleluia Singers, Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford  
Greeters ..... Elizabeth Alexander, Nina Anderson, Edna Rennie  
Ushers..... Alyssa Campbell, Maggie Craig, Joan Grahl  
Sound System..... Luke Campbell  
Projectionist ..... Benita Worley  
Coffee Hour ..... Shelley Adamson, Anne Studer

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

**Sunday School Teachers** - Rachel Anweiler, Leslie Atwell, Caitlyn Bertetic, Tanya Burke, Cheryl Perry, Moira Pritchard, Suki Vernet.

**Infant and Toddler care** – Our infant and toddler care (nursery) room is available for your use with children who do not wish to remain in the service.

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

**Offering Counters Today** – Audrey Beal, Linda Gilmour, Myrna MacKenzie.

**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.**

Introduction to the Season of Creation

Call to Worship (responsive)

*We come into this space with our voice*

**We come to sing praise to our God!**

*We come into this space with our presence*

**We come to be united in fellowship with God!**

*We come into this space with our breath*

**We come to give our being, our all, to God!**

*For all we have and all we are, comes from our Creator*

**Who gives us new life in Jesus Christ our Lord! Come, let us celebrate as the new creation in Christ**

Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" (Voices United 240)

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

**Searching God, we have at times believed the lie that we are worthless, that we have no value, that we are broken and damaged goods. We have at times believed the lie that we needed to do something to fix ourselves in order to be worthy of you, whether it be magic words, or a step-by-step process. Forgive our foolishness and remind us that you love us, completely as we are. You love us because you made us. We are yours. Help us to remember this always, that while**

**the world may break against us, we are not broken people. Send us forth to search for all who sit in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone to come and find them, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior came to find us. AMEN.**

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

Luke 15:1-10 (Islene Vernet)

Word for all Ages

Hymn "Magic Penny" -Malvina Reynolds

*Children leave for Sunday school*

Anthem "Lead Me, Lord" -Wesley, arr. J. Leavitt

Reflection "Pure Joy"

## Thanksgiving

Silence/A Time of Musical Reflection

"How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" -Brahms

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)

**God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth. With all creation, we pray. AMEN.**

Prayer of Intercession (Janet Watson)

The Lord's Prayer (Voices United 921)

## **Sending Forth**

Hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You" (Voices United 232)

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:**

*Jeremiah 8:18—9:1; Psalm 79:1-9;*

*1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13*

**Annual Craft Fair** Circle the 16<sup>th</sup> of November for this year's Craft Fair. If you are interested in participating, or know of someone who is, please give Linda a call at (250) 717-1018 before Sept 19<sup>th</sup>. The registration forms are being sent out Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> and tables are assigned on a first come first served basis. Table rental is the usual \$30 plus a donation of your craft to our door prizes.

**Envelope Steward Wanted** Our new Envelope Steward has had to resign only a few months into the job and we are seeking a replacement for this important role. The Envelope Steward's main function is to maintain an up-to-date, accurate record of contributions by the those attending First United and to interface directly with contributors. As you may know, Audrey Beal performed this job tirelessly for 10 years and retired at the end of April, 2019. We thank Audrey for all of her hard work through those years and we appreciate her guidance as we work to replace her yet again! If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact Beryl Itani on the Finance Committee (formerly Stewardship).

### **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](mailto:cherylperry@telus.net)

**Walk & Talk** Walk and Talk is held at the church, on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11. You can register at the Pastoral Care table, following the service today. The program on this Wednesday will be a reflection on "The Knowledge Keepers". All are welcome.

**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 cover 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.

<p><b>THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED</b>  <b>SEPTEMBER 15 - 22, 2019</b></p>
---

<b>Today</b>	8:30AM	Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM	Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:15AM	Refreshments: Hall
	3:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry
<b>Monday</b>	10:00AM	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00AM	Walk & Talk: 14
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30AM	Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	1:00PM	Prayer Shawl ministry: 14
	7:00PM	Alleluia Singers rehearse: Sanctuary
<b>Friday</b>	9:00AM	Walk & Talk: 14
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00AM	El Triunfo book sale: Hall
<b>Next Sunday</b>	8:30AM	Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM	Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM	Refreshments: Hall
	3:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry