

First United Church

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2019

Worship Leaders	Cheryl Perry, Bob Wallace
Music	Alleluia Singers, Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford
Greeters	Brenda Maier, Greig McPhee, Pat McPhee
Ushers.....	Alyssa Campbell, Maggie Craig, Marlene Spicer
Sound System.....	Deanna Peck
Projectionist	Luke Campbell
Sunday school Teachers.....	Leslie Atwell, Caitlyn Bertetic,Arata Campbell, Brock Campbell, Gerry Hewitt, Beryl Itani,Moira Pritchard, Suki Vernet
Coffee Hour	Joa Lazarus, Heather MacDonald
Offering Counters.....	Lyn Brown, Maggie Craig, Myrna MacKenzie

Welcome Table in the hall after worship - Information about activities and services we offer at First United. Remember to update your Family Record so we have current contact information and emergency numbers and if you have not filled out a Family Record you are invited to do so!

Infant and Toddler care - Parents are welcome to keep infants with them during the service. As well, every Sunday care for infants and toddlers is available in Room 13 beginning 10 minutes before the start of the service. When children leave for Sunday School part-way through the service, preschoolers join these children for a preschool program that includes Bible stories, crafts, snack and play time.

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

Food Share Containers in the hall - for non-perishable food & hygiene items.

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

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

Gathering

Prelude

Ring of the Bell, Welcome, Announcements

Introit "Slow Me Down" (*Spirit Anew* 67)

**Slow me down, still my restless mind.
Quell my fears, quench my thirsty soul.
Fill me with your love, God of truth, God of love.**

Call to Worship (responsive)

The Creator is about to create new heavens and a new earth.

We will be glad and rejoice in what God is creating.

No more shall the sound of weeping be heard, or the cry of distress.

Surely God is our salvation; we will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is our strength and our might; God has become our salvation.

In God's promised world, there is hope for justice and peace among all peoples.

May our eyes be opened to the promised future as we celebrate God's faithful presence with us this day. Let us worship God.

Hymn "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" (Voices United 356)

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

Creation's Heart, we look around and see how we fall short in our attempts at faithfulness. We often do things, not because it is what you call us to do, but in hopes of earning points with you. We can become so self-absorbed, we cannot see the suffering and struggles of friends, family, strangers. We are so desperate to get to the front of the line, we push aside the very ones you seek to honour.

Forgive us, Holy One. Remind us that the cup we are offered overflows with grace, that the waters of baptism cleanse and make us new, and that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, is the One who calls us to service, standing by our side, as we seek to be faithful disciples.

We continue to pray, in silence... ..

Words of Hope (responsive)

The One who poured the foundations of creation fills us with grace and hope. The One who numbered the clouds, tips over rain barrels of living water into our parched souls.

The One who writes anthems for the early morning stars, fills us with songs of joy. The One who provides food for all living things, feeds us with mercies which come fresh and new each day. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Sung response “How Deep the Peace” (*More Voices 95*)

**How deep the peace, the confidence
Of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
Of those whose hearts are healed. (2x)**

Passing the Peace

Word

Word for All Ages

Hymn “Outside the Lines” (*More Voices 138*)

Children leave for Sunday school

Anthem “Sing a New Song to the Lord” -John Bell

Malachi 4:1-2 & Luke 18:35-43 (Shelley McLeod)

Reflection

Hymn “Creating God, We Give You Thanks” (*Voices United 292*)

Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession (Shelley McLeod)

The Lord's Prayer (Voices United 959)

A Time of Musical Reflection

"O Blessed Thought" –arr. Mark Hayes

Offertory "When We Are Living" (*Voices United 581, vs. 2*)

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving or when receiving, we belong to God,

We belong to God.

Prayer of Dedication of the Offering (unison)

May our gifts lay a foundation of hope for all in despair; may the brighten the shadows of those who wander alone; may they cause the voiceless to join the morning stars in singing your praises. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Sending Forth

Hymn "I See a New Heaven" (Voices United 713)

Commissioning

Now, God who cradles us in baptism's water, sends us forth,
to drawn hope from God's heart and offer it to others.

Now, Jesus who poured the cup of grace, sends us forth,
to bring food and shelter, love and companionship to our neighbors.

Now the Spirit who teaches us songs of peace, sends us forth,
to offer reconciliation in every broken place, to every shattered person.

Benediction

Sung Response "Benediction" (Spirit Anew 157)

**As we leave this place of worship,
And we go our separate ways,
May the God who goes before us,
Guide in all our coming days.
Let us now go forth in service,
Serving ev'ry creed and race;
In the spirit of true giving,
Living peace and grace.**

Postlude "We are Marching in the Light of God" –arr. John Carter

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46;

Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Monthly Prayer Shawl Ministry Join us to knit or crochet prayer shawls for our congregation and the community at 1:00pm in room 14 on Thursday November 21. We'll help those who are beginner knitters or crocheters.

Handbell Boot Camp! Are you interested in trying out handbells? Have you rung in the past, are interested in joining the Alleluia Ringers or the Grace Notes, but it's been a while and you need a refresher? Handbell Boot Camp is a one-day program for learning the basics of ringing and preparing one piece for the service the next morning. If you have basic music reading skills and are interested in taking part, mark Saturday, November 30 and Sunday, December 1 on your calendar and contact Nikki Attwell at 250-707-3375 or nattwell@telus.net to sign up.

Wild Church Saturday, November 23, 2:00 to 3:30pm

Chichester Wetlands Park, Rutland (*enter off Chichester Court*) If you long to connect your spirit with the Great Mystery, Creator, Source, or whatever name you give to that which is greater than we are, come join us at this Wild Church here in Kelowna. Reverend LeAnn Blackert from Kamloops will be facilitating the gathering. Please dress warmly and bring a chair and a hot or cold drink.

Blethering There are currently **4 Blethers left** to choose from in the month of November. Please RSVP to the host directly.

1. Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2pm – Nancy Hillmer –
7550 Goudie Road in Joe Rich 250-765-8776
2. ***NEW*** Saturday, Nov. 23, 7pm – Robyn and Joel Springer –
1660 Willow Crescent, 250-763-8402
3. Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2pm – Jean & Trent James –
933 Purcell Drive 250-763-6308
4. Friday, Nov. 29, 10am – Gerry Hewitt –
1505-1152 Sunset Drive 250-763-9040

What's new on the Outreach Bulletin Board in the Church Hall this week? Come check out the work of one of our Mission and Service partners: *Defense for Children International: Palestine (DCI:P)*. DCI:P promotes and protects the human rights of Palestinian children living under occupation and military law in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem. You can also learn more about the work of DCI:P by checking out their website: <https://www.dci-palestine.org>.

Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts is a film about a devastating decision made over 500 years ago. Pope Alexander VI ruled that the lands being discovered by European explorers at the time were “empty” lands and its millions of Indigenous inhabitants were “non-human”. Please join us for this screening on Thursday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. First Mennonite Church, 1305 Gordon Drive. Registration is not mandatory but to help us plan for seating and refreshments, it would be great if you could register on Eventbrite. Questions? Contact Gerry Hewitt at (250) 763-9040.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED
NOVEMBER 17-24, 2019

Today	8:30AM	Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM	Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM	Refreshments: Hall
	11:15AM	Friday Night Women's event: 14
	12:00PM	First UP! Meeting: Sanctuary
	3:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry
Monday	10:00AM	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
Tuesday	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
Wednesday	9:30AM	Walk & Talk: 14
	2:00PM	Blether at Nancy Hillmer's
		Adult Study CANCELLED today
Thursday	8:30AM	Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM	Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	1:00PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry: 14
	7:00PM	Alleluia Singers rehearse: Sanctuary
Friday	9:30AM	Walk & Talk: 14
	5:00PM	Fall Fun Friday-Junior Chef: Kitchen/hall
Saturday	10:30AM	Trustees meeting: 13
	7:00PM	Blether at Robyn and Joel Springer's
Next Sunday	8:30AM	Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM	Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM	Refreshments: Hall
	11:15AM	Holy Conversation: 14
	12:00PM	Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Sanctuary