

First United Church

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 24, 2019

Worship Leaders	Cheryl Perry, Bob Wallace
Music	Alleluia Ringers, Alleluia Singers, Nikki Attwell, Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford
Greeters	Joyce Arndt, Shaun Ferguson, Bev Milton
Ushers.....	Liz Basisty, Ted Basisty, Skip Kozuska
Sound System.....	Luke Campbell
Projectionist	
Sunday school Teachers.....	Leslie Atwell, Caitlyn Bertetic, Arata Campbell, Brock Campbell, Gerry Hewitt, Beryl Itani, Moira Pritchard, Suki Vernet
Coffee Hour	Catherine Doherty, Mairi Forsyth
Offering Counters.....	Ron Green, Linda Munce, Kathleen Smith

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 Mt. Paul United Church in Kamloops.

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)

God has promised a new heavens and new earth.

There, the former things are forgotten, and all things are made new.

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.

Hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" (Voices United 334)

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

In these moments, Remembering God, we bring to you all the ways we have not lived as your people: we stand by watching while those in need struggle to survive; we cast our lots with those who worship power and success; we offer insults rather than words of grace to those who care for us; we scoff at your words which call us to a different lifestyle.

Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves. Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior, who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope.

Words of Hope (responsive)

This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion. God remembers us - and redeems us!

God prepares the way for us—the way to grace, to hope, to new life. Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. 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 “Bring Many Names” (*Voices United 268*)

Children leave for Sunday school

Anthem “Lord, You Have Searched Me Out and Know Me”-Marc Hafso

Isaiah 65:17-25 & Luke 21:5-19 (Tom Kemp)

Reflection

Hymn “River Running in You and Me” (*More Voices 163*)

Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession (Tom Kemp)

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

A Time of Musical Reflection

“The Journey” –arr. by Arnold Sherman

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 Thanksgiving (unison)

God, you offer the world a new vision of life which is full and abundant, teeming with all the good gifts that you lavish upon us in Christ Jesus. May we be open to receiving your gifts with gratitude, and generous in offering them, along with ourselves, for the sake of others, and for the sake of the whole world. Amen.

Sending Forth

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (*Voices United 1*)

Commissioning & Benediction

Before us it is blessed, behind us it is blessed,
below us it is blessed, above us it is blessed,
around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.

Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.

With beauty before us, with beauty behind us,

with beauty below us, with beauty above us,

with beauty around us, we set out for a holy place indeed.

Amen.

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 “Joyful Reflections” –Cynthia Dobrinski

Next Week’s Lectionary Readings:

The first Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:47-55;

Matthew 3:1-12; Matthew 11:2-11

This Year’s Craft Fair A huge thank you to all who participated in any way in this year’s fair. I counted the number of people that helped to make it a success and the total was well over 50. I also would like to thank you all for your help and support over the past 12 years. This year I am hanging up my craft fair hat and passing the baton into the capable hands of Shelley Adamson. I’m sure she will do a great job. Sincerely, Linda Munce

You “Can”and We Did! Thank you to your generous response to the food shelf campaign in October! We asked the congregation: “Can you help us fill this cart?” and you did! Each week the cart was in the Hall for people to drop off canned and non-perishable goods. In all we collected 34 cans of vegetables/fruit and beans, pasta, toilet paper, boxed macaroni and cheese, 20 cans of ravioli/chilli, peanut butter, tea, 20 cans of tuna, granola bars, rice, oatmeal and more! For many on meagre incomes or assistance 80% or more is spent on housing. Our Food Shelf helps those who can not afford groceries.

Advent is Just Around the Corner

The season of Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for Christmas. To begin we invite you to join us to “make the house ready”—to help decorate the sanctuary, trim the tree, and enjoy a time of fellowship—on the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st. Stay after church for a sandwich. Lend a hand decorating, enjoy a cup of warm apple cider or making a craft. This is a great way to meet others in the congregation of all ages!

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.

Sparkle Tour December 8 Pastoral Care Core Ministry is pleased to once again organize the "Sparkle Tour". This is an opportunity for those with mobility issues and those that no longer drive at night, to see the Christmas light displays. If you would like to participate, you will be picked-up between 4:30 and 5, driven around for about an hour to look at the lights and then returned to the church for hot spiced apple juice and shortbread and most importantly a time to socialize and get to know others in the congregation. Please sign up at the Welcome Table after church or call the church office during business hours at 250-762-3311.

Blethering There are **3 Blethers left** to join. Please RSVP to the host directly.

1. Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2pm – Jean & Trent James –
933 Purcell Drive 250-763-6308
2. Friday, Nov. 29, 10am – Gerry Hewitt –
1505-1152 Sunset Drive 250-763-9040
3. ***NEW*** Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2pm – Kathleen Smith, cohost Linda Munce –
205-303 Whitman Road 250-861-8642

A Fairer, Simpler Christmas. Are you looking to simplify your Christmas shopping this year and at the same time support small scale farmers and artisans? The Outreach Core Ministry will be selling Salvadoran handicrafts, coffee, tea, olive oil soap, chocolate bars, olive oil and Za'atar on December 1, 8 and 15 in the church hall after worship. All of these products make great teacher gifts, hostess gifts and stocking stuffers. The proceeds from our sales will support scholarships for our students in El Salvador and the Fair Trade coffee and tea that we serve here at First as part of our hospitality ministry. It truly is a win-win for us and our global neighbours.

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: *Wi'am: Palestinian Conflict Transformation Centre*. *Wi'am* provides a range of programs for ages and genders. Their programming teaches conflict management skills and leadership skills and provides cultural, educational and recreational opportunities. You can also learn more about the work of *Wi'am* by checking out their website: <http://www.alaslah.org>.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED NOVEMBER 24-DECEMBER 1, 2019

Today	8:30AM Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	11:30AM Holy Conversation: 14
	12:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry
Monday	10:00AM Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
	6:30PM Board meeting: 14
Tuesday	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	2:00PM Isabel Leitch Coffee Time: 14
Wednesday	9:30AM Walk & Talk: 14
	2:00PM Blether at Jean and Trent James'
Thursday	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall
	7:00PM Alleluia Singers rehearse: Sanctuary
Friday	10:00AM Blether at Gerry Hewitt's
Saturday	9:30AM Handbell Bootcamp: Belfry
Next Sunday	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM 1st Sunday of Advent Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	11:30AM Advent party: Sanctuary
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Sanctuary