

# First United Church

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2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2020

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Worship Leaders ..... Cheryl Perry, Bob Wallace  
Music ..... Alleluia Singers, Frances Chiasson, Jessica Crawford  
Greeters ..... Linda Gilmour, Mackenzie Pruden, Marlene Pruden  
Ushers..... Alyssa Campbell, Maggie Craig, Joan Grahl  
Sound System..... Carl Stef  
Projectionist ..... Caitlyn Bertetic and Nathanael Bertetic  
Coffee Hour ..... Bobbie Tough, Duncan Tough  
Offering Counters ..... Audrey Beal, Maggie Craig, Ron Green

**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!

**Sunday school Teachers** – Rachel Anweiler, Tanya Burke, Caitlyn Bertetic, Cheryl Perry, Moira Pritchard, Isabella Seethaler, Robyn Springer, Jessica Vinton.

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

**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.

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

# Gathering

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell, Welcome, Announcements

Introit "Life's Sacredness" (Christopher New)

**Beauty is around us; Beauty is within us;  
Beauty is between us; Beauty is unfolding in us.  
Beauty is around us; Beauty is within us;  
Beauty is between us; opening to reveal  
Life's sacredness, life's sacredness  
Revealed in the wonder, revealed in the earth;  
Revealed in our quest for life.  
Spirit is around us; Spirit is within us;  
Spirit is between us; Spirit is unfolding in us.  
Spirit is around us; Spirit is within us;  
Spirit is between us; opening to reveal  
Life's sacredness, life's sacredness  
Revealed in the wonder, revealed in the earth;  
Revealed in our quest for life.**

Call to Worship (responsive)

We wait patiently for our God.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One who calls us here.**

We will not chase after other gods.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One in whom we can trust.**

We will tell of all God has done for us.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One whose salvation is for all.**

Hymn "God, We Praise You for the Morning" (Voices United 415)

Call to Reconciliation

## Prayer of Reconciliation

**You are faithful, Patient God, even as we continue to live in the shadows of life.**

**We could delight in your hopes for us, but choose to do things our way.**

**We could serve the most vulnerable around us, but long to pal around with the powerful.**

**We could share the glad news of deliverance, but prefer to swap stories and gossip.**

**There is none like you, Redeemer of all your children.**

**You lean over to listen to our prayers, and whisper forgiveness to our souls.**

**You lift us out of the holes we dig for ourselves, and set us on hope's solid ground.**

**You strengthen our weak faith with the life, grace, and love of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Saviour.**

## Words of Hope

Come, dear friends and receive God's grace; see all the God is doing for you; follow Jesus, as he leads you closer to God.

**I will sing of God's love for me; I will sing a new song of hope and wonder. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Sung response "Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands"

(More Voices 173 vs. 2)

**Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation. (2x)**

## Passing of the Peace

## Word

John 1:29-42 (Isabella Seethaler)

Word for all ages

Hymn "Praise God for this Holy Ground" (More Voices 42)

*Children leave for Sunday school*

Anthem "Come, Follow Me"-Elly & Steve Kupferschmid

Psalm 40 (Voices United 764 with sung refrains)

Reflection

Hymn "Like a Healing Stream" (More Voices 144)

## Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession (Linda Gunn)

The Lord's Prayer

A Time of Musical Reflection

"Searching for Lambs" -Kim Robertson

Offertory "Now Thank We All Our God" (Voices United 236, vs. 1)

**Now thank we all our God,  
with heart, and hands, and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom the world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

**May these gifts we offer, God of new ways, bring comfort to  
those who grieve; hope to those who live on the streets of  
despair; peace to all the broken places; and grace to all who  
long to draw closer to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## Sending Forth

Hymn “Spirit of God, Descent Upon My Heart” (Voices United 378)

Commissioning

Having learned new words from our God,  
**we will go to warm others in the bleak midwinter of life, to  
whisper to them of grace and hope.**

Having learned new ways to serve from Jesus,  
**we will go to clear paths for those lost in oppression, to wait  
with those in hospital rooms and job lines.**

Having learned new songs from the Spirit,  
**we will go to sing of peace in all the broken places, to light  
the way out of the shadows of injustice.**

Benediction (choir only) “Let us, O God, depart in Peace”

(Voices United 961)

Sung Response “Masithi Amen”

Leader: Masithi

**Amen! Si-a-ku-du-mi-sa!**

Leader: Masithi

**Amen! Si-a-ku-du-mi-sa!**

Leader: Masithi

**Amen, ba-wo! Amen, ba-wo! Amen! Si-a-ku-du-mi-sa.**

Leader: Masithi

**Amen! We praise your name, O God.**

Leader: Masithi

**Amen! We praise your name, O God.**

Leader: Masithi

**Amen, ba-wo! Amen, ba-wo! Amen!**

**We praise your name, O God.**

Postlude “She Moves Through the Fair”-traditional

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## **Next Week's Lectionary Readings:**

*Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; I Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23*

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**First UP! Architectural plans reveal** Please plan to stay after worship today to see the initial drawings and models of what a new First could look like!

**Women's retreat** Get your registration forms for this one-day retreat on Saturday January 25 in the hall on the bulletin board. The facilitator is Keri Wehlander and the theme is "Each blade of grass: The Practice of Paying Attention".

**First's got talent** We will be hosting a potluck dinner and talent show on **Saturday Feb 8th starting at 5:30**. Everyone is invited to join in on the potluck and watch some of the fabulous talent our church has to show. If you sing, dance, play an instrument, are a comedian, or anything else you think is a talent, then we want to hear from you! If you would like to sign up with a talent, please see us at the welcome table after church, or contact Judy Valks at [judyvalks@gmail.com](mailto:judyvalks@gmail.com) or at 250-862-0712.

**First United Family Directory 2020** Be sure to drop by the Welcome Table after church and book your photo taking appointment for the family directory. The first picture taking sessions will be held the week of January 20-25, 2020 and a second week will be offered April 14-18.

**Wild Church Okanagan** is hosting a movie night featuring "Journey of the Universe" on Saturday, January 25 at 2:00 pm. This event will be held at Rutland United Church. Journey of the Universe is a collaborative effort of eco-philosopher Brian Swimme and Mary Evelyn Tucker, historian of religions. It looks at the development of the universe and the interconnectedness of all of life. Popcorn and drinks will be available. by donation. For more information, visit [wildchurchbc.org](http://wildchurchbc.org) or call LeAnn Blackert at 250-851-1984.

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED**  
**JANUARY 19 - 26, 2020**

<b>Today</b>	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	11:00AM First Up! Presentation
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry
<b>Monday</b>	10:00AM Grandparents raising grandchildren: 14
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00AM Coffee and outreach: Hall
	1:00PM Adult study: 14
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00PM Adult study: 14
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee and outreach: Hall
	7:00PM Alleluia Singers rehearsal: Sanctuary
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00AM One Day Women's Retreat: 14, Hall, Kitchen
<b>Next Sunday</b>	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Sunday worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	12:00PM Okanagan Japanese congregation worship: 14
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry