

# First United Church

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Transfiguration Sunday

February 23, 2020

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Worship Leaders ..... Cheryl Perry, Bob Wallace  
Music ..... Alleluia Ringers, Alleluia Singers, Nikki Attwell, Frances Chiasson,  
..... Nakita Edwards  
Greeters ..... Beryl Norman, Carl Sapinsky, Donna Sapinsky  
Ushers..... Ted Basisty, Liz Basisty, Mel Sparrow  
Sound System..... Luke Campbell  
Projectionist ..... Ashton Springer  
Coffee Hour ..... Brenda Maier, Greg Maier  
Offering Counters ..... Ken Ottoson, Linda Ottoson, Edna Rennie

**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.

**Prayer Cycle** - This Sunday, in the annual rotation, we join with other churches to pray for Sicamous 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

Ring 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)

Do not remember the former things,  
**Do not consider the ways of old.**

God is about to do a new thing,  
**It is about to spring forth!**

God is going to make a new way through the wilderness,  
**God will bring rivers to the desert.**

God is doing something new in us

**Be ready! Be transformed! Be a new creation for Christ!  
Amen!**

Hymn "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" (Voices United 421)

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

**Our judgment often becomes clouded by our foolishness, Sheltering God, and so we make all the wrong choices. We let fancy philosophies draw us away from your grace. The flowery words of politicians can lead us into valleys of worry and despair. Our fears can convince us that those around us are conspiring against us.**

**You can take all our foolishness, Creative God, and make us wise enough to see you among us. You take the shards of our broken lives to recast us into a faithful people. You speak gently to us, so we can listen to your dreams of our seeing each person as your beloved, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, sees us through such eyes.**

Words of Hope (responsive)

On mountaintops and in valleys, in moments when our lives are shrouded and as well as when we reflect Christ's light, God is with us, declaring we are the beloved!

**In this moment, in every moment, may we glimpse the grace of God which comes and transfigures our lives. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! 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

Word for all ages

Hymn "It Is Well With My Soul" (Nakita Edwards)

*Children leave for Sunday school*

Anthem "Jesus on the Mountain Peak"- Ron Klusmeier

Matthew 17:1-9 (Judy Valks)

Reflection

Hymn "Deep in Our Hearts" (More Voices 154)

## Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession (Judy Valks)

The Lord's Prayer (Voices United 959)

A Time of Musical Reflection

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name" arr. Kevin McChesney

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 Dedication (unison)

**Let us not keep our treasures stored in the mountaintops of our fears of how others might use them, but pour them out so they might be used to transform all those who find themselves in the valleys of hunger, of loss, of loneliness, and of injustice. This we ask in the name of your Beloved. Amen.**

## Sending Forth

Hymn "We Are Marching" (Voices United 646)

## Commissioning

God sends us from this experience of worship to serve all those around us.

**We will go to take the light of hope into the shadowed corners in our midst.**

Jesus, the Beloved, invites us to join him in everyday life, in everyday service.

**We will go to be blessed by all those overlooked by the world.**

Glory's Spirit takes us by the hand to lead us down path of humility.

**We will enter into the mists of mistrust, so we can offer hope to many.**

Benediction "Let us, O God, depart in Peace" (choir only, VU 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 "Jesu, Jesu"-arr. Kevin McChesney

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

*Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 11 Corinthians 5:20--6:10;  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

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**The Annual Meeting** of First United will be on Sunday, March 1 following worship in the hall with lunch by donation. There will be gluten free and vegan options for lunch.

**Just a bit more!** There are still a few opportunities to help out with the Crop 'Till You Drop on Saturday February 29. Please see the sign-up table after church in the hall. Thank you for your continuing support!

**Kitchen stove** One of our two ovens is not working optimally anymore. Before I try and figure out if we can fix it at a cost of more than it's worth, I thought I'd ask if anyone has an electric stove to donate to the kitchen. It must work! Otherwise, we're not too picky. Please contact Tanya in the office.

**Got 10 minutes to spare?** Here is an opportunity to help out once a week for 10 minutes after the service. We would like a team of 3 or even 4 people to tidy the hymn books, restock the envelopes pencils etc. and make sure there aren't old bulletins etc. left behind. If this job appeals to you, please see me after the service at the Welcome Table. Hope to see you there. Linda Munce.

**Zatoun Fair Trade olive oil** For the past three years, we have been selling Zatoun Fair Trade olive oil, soap and Za'atar to support both Palestinian farmers and raise money for our El Salvadorean student scholarships. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to have Robert Massoud, a Palestinian Canadian and the founder of Zatoun Fair Trade olive oil in the Okanagan on a speaking tour from February 29 to March 8. There are two opportunities to hear him in Kelowna that we are part of co-hosting with three other communities of faith: 1) **Get on Board the Israel-Palestine Peace Train** - March 3 - 2:00 to 3:30pm at First Mennonite Church, 1305 Gordon Drive, Kelowna <https://getonboardpeacetrain.eventbrite.com>

2) **What's holding up the Israel-Palestine Peace Train?** March 4 - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. here at First United Church <https://whats-happened-to-the-peace-train.eventbrite.com> Registering on Eventbrite is not mandatory but will help us plan for seating. Check out the posters in the church hall for more information. Questions? Contact Debbie at 250-469-4468 or [zatoun.sinteriorbc@gmail.com](mailto:zatoun.sinteriorbc@gmail.com)

**Help with décor** If you can stay a few minutes after church on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to help rearrange sanctuary décor, Karen Kranabetter would be so thankful!

**Wine Gift Bags** Do you have any wine gift bags that you could donate to the Outreach Committee? The wine bags are great for packaging the bottles of olive oil that we sell to support our El Salvadoran students. Please leave them in the church office. Thank you.

<b>THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED</b> <b>FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 1, 2020</b>
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<b>Today</b>	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	12:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry
<b>Monday</b>	10:00AM Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00AM Coffee and outreach: Hall
	2:00PM Isabel Leitch Unit (UCW) – Coffee time: 14
	5:00PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Worship
<b>Wednesday</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee and outreach: Hall
	7:00PM Alleluia Singers rehearsal: Sanctuary
<b>Friday</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:00AM Kelowna-wide United Church meeting: Christ Lutheran church 2091 Gordon Drive Bring a bag lunch</b>
	9:00AM Crop Till You Drop: 12/14/Hall/Kitchen
<b>Next Sunday</b>	10:00AM Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Lunch by donation: Hall
	11:00AM Sale of Fair-Trade Items: Hall
	11:30AM Annual meeting: Hall
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry