



Stettler United Church October 18, 2020

Welcoming Words & Announcements

***Many thanks to Worship Committee members, Joyce Wickstrom & Sue Stratulate, for leading today's service.

Lighting of the Christ-Candle

We light the Christ candle knowing that Christ's love shines like a beacon for those of us who are troubled, who are anxious, who are unsure, welcoming us into the presence of our God, who loves us into fullness. Written by Fern Gibbard. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2 2020, page 32. Used with permission.

Call to Worship

These are difficult times,

Yet we come bearing hope.

When the world we once knew is passing away, when hunger and homelessness are rampant, hope seems like a difficult choice.

We know we are not alone in our hope.

Yes, you have Christ who has been amongst you.

He knows what it means to have pain and to have suffered.

**He showed us how we are to share
and provide for all.**

We are not alone

Thanks be to God

Written by Eric Hebert-Daly. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2 2020, page 48. Used with permission.

Hymn: *It Only Takes a Spark* #289 VU

Words, Music: Kurt Kaiser 1969 Used by permission of Budjohn Songs, c/o EMI Christian Music, 101 Winner's Circle, Brentwood, TN

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Loving God, in the stories and prayers of scripture, we hear the longing of our ancestors for a world of justice, a world where those in poverty are fed, where strangers are welcomed.

Your people hunger and thirst for righteousness, for the simple kindness that honours all people, for your guidance and healing and wisdom.

You satisfy our hunger with moments of awareness in our daily life: meeting us at the table where we are fed; meeting us in the hand that is reaching out; meeting us in the call to pray for each other; meeting us as we dedicate our offering to you.

Great spirit, remind us that you have chosen us to feed those in poverty; to care for those bereaved; to welcome strangers and refugees.

Feed us with your stories this day. Amen.

Written by Wendy MacLean. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2 2017, page 44. Used with permission

Congregational Theme/Story Time (20 Questions)

A Reading from Exodus 33: 12-23

God speaks to Moses face to face as a friend.

A Reading from Matthew 22: 15-22

Give to God the things that are God's.

Message

Minute for Mission

Offering Prayer (Unison)

Your work needs many hands to see it to fulfillment.

Your work needs our trust in participation.

Through our gifts this day and through our discipleship, we offer what we have and are to you.

Bless all of our giving and multiply our gifts so that your vision may become reality. Amen.

Written by Beth W Johnston. *Gathering* Pentecost 2 2017, page 42. Used with permission.

Hymn: *Take My Life and Let it Be* #506 VU

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Prayers of the People & The Prayer Jesus Taught

Creator God, Liberating Spirit, Risen Christ, we join our hearts with your people everywhere as we remember all who are oppressed and the prophets who advocate for them. We join our voices with all the Saints who have journeyed the way of love before us, and all those who take up the work of peace and justice in our time.

We pray for victims of violence,
And those who create violence. We pray for victims of uncaring systems, and those who benefit from those systems. We pray for the fragile planet, and those who wound it. Let this week be holy.
Let this time be filled with grace and mercy. Let this place be a sanctuary for those in pain, and a cradle for the birth of hope and faith and love.
Let this time of worship bring us closer together, and closer to you, Eternal one. And we gather all our prayers together into the prayer Jesus taught us, saying : **“Our Mother/Father in heaven... “**

Written by Robin Wardlaw. ***Gathering*** Pentecost 2 2020, page 31. Used with permission.

Commissioning (*responsively*)

Go forth, witnessing to our membership in the body of Christ!

Let us show to the world the blessings that we receive from God.

Let us share our faith in Christ that brings healing to the brokenness around us.

**and our calling from the Spirit to reach out to all who feel lost and
proclaim the good news:**

God is with us!

Written by Sandy Ferguson. ***Gathering*** Pentecost 2 2020, page 46. Used with permission.

Hymn: *May the God of Hope Go With Us* #424 VU

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