



Date: June 8, 2025
Pentecost Sunday
Theme: The Holy Spirit &
The United Church of Canada's 100th
Anniversary

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Evelyn Strandquist
Audio/Visual: Amy Kwon
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Sing-a-long** ~ with Rev. Kwon ~ Friday June 20th @ 1:00 pm
- **Celebration of Life** for Gladys Groat: Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. Stettler Funeral Home, Stettler, Alberta

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

On the first day of Pentecost, the faithful gathered and the world changed.

On this day of Pentecost, we have gathered and we commit to being a faith community of change.

We will celebrate joyfully,

and others will be caught up in our joy.

We will care passionately,

and others will be touched by our compassion.

We will meet injustice head on,

and self-serving attitudes will be confronted.

We will embrace global needs,

and serve up hope and justice in the world.

The Spirit will inspire and enliven us!

Thanks be to God for the gathered church.

Let us worship and welcome the Spirit.

David Sparks, Summerland, B.C. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 25. Used with Permission.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this Christ candle as a symbol of the presence of Jesus Christ with us on our journey of life and discipleship: Jesus Christ, the light of life for us.

Today, Pentecost Sunday, we acknowledge that we need help to transform that symbol into our daily living and serving.

Today, we take the hands of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, inviting those two to empower us as disciples and to nurture our growing discipleship.

(The candle is lit.)

Bill Perry, Belleville, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 25. Used with Permission.

***Hymn We Are One VU#402**

Words: © 1988 Doreen Lankshear-Smith, PO Box 3791, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6E3. Music: © 1995 Jeeva Sam.

Arrangement: ©1995 David Kai. Words: Doreen Lankshear-Smith. Music: Jeeva Sam. Arrangement: David Kai. CCLI, LicenSing

Opening Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of order and peace, we come before you this morning with hearts bulging like overfilled cupboards.

We have stuffed our troubles away until the cabinet doors will not close and fear tumbles into the living spaces of our lives.

We receive your message that you have made a place for each of us in your kingdom, but we are skeptical, and entering is difficult.

Rather than journeying in the Way, we are prone to wander in a worldly maze.

Living in the spirit of truth makes us so vulnerable that we seek security in the cover of game faces and attitudes.

The life you offer is a beloved community from which we turn away in order to grasp our privacy.

Forgive our confusion and our resistance.

Draw us closer to you that we may know and accept your claim on us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Carol E. Bayma, Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, Virginia. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 26-27. Used with Permission.

WE LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

***Hymn *Open My Eyes, That I May See* VU#371**

Words, Music: Clara H. Scott 1895. Public Domain. N/A

Prayer of Illumination

Living God, eternal Spirit, let your bright intoxicating energy which fired those first disciples fall on us to turn the world again.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 206.

Scripture Readings:

Acts 2:1-21: The Spirit comes on the day of Pentecost.

Romans 8:14-17: A spirit of adoption, not slavery.

John 14:16-17: God will send you the Spirit of Truth.

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1)

(being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885 Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together*

VU#480

Words, Music: African-American spiritual. Harmony: © 1971 F.R.C. Clarke. Words, Music: Public Domain. Harmony: F.R.C. Clarke. N/A

Call to Give Thanks

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 275.

The Great Thanksgiving

ALL: Holy God of wind and fire, your Spirit renews the face of the earth and warms the hearts of your people. We give you thanks for your gifts of pentecostal power: tongues that utter prophetic words of truth and justice; flames that kindle new visions of compassion and peace; fresh breezes that blow down the walls which separate us from you and one another. And so it is that we join with every voice and tongue on earth and in the heavens to give you praise.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 279.

Song of Creation (Sanctus-Benedictus)

ALL: Holy, holy, holy God, Power of life and love! Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna through the ages! Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 285.

Remembering Jesus at Table (Institution Narrative)

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 286.

Prayer of Self-Giving

ALL: O God, Redeemer of all things, with grateful thanks we offer this bread and wine, fruits of your earth and of our labour, signs of your redemptive purpose for our lives and for all your creation.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 289.

Affirmation of Memory and Hope (Memorial Acclamation)

By sharing in this loaf and cup we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again

Amen, Come, Christ Jesus!

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 291..

Prayer for Transformation (Epiclesis)

ALL: Holy Spirit, unite us at this table and strengthen us to live the resurrected life of Christ in the world.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 292.

Concluding Praise (Doxology)

ALL: We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, and in the power of your life-giving Spirit, now and forever.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 292.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together saying:

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Fraction and Pouring

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

Sharing the Bread and Cup (Distribution)

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, may your gifts of love transform and enliven us that we may live lives of thanksgiving. May your presence among us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace, and your love. In Christ's name, we pray.

Amen.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 303.

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

***Hymn The Church's One Foundation VU#331**

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU#541 Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

ALL: Faithful God, true to your promises, we gather in hope. We experience a world around us that has corners of hopelessness, cities engulfed in violence, avenues of grief, and barriers of hatred. Strengthen our prayers and strengthen our gifts. Stir our impatience. Reclaim your world, and establish your hope and peace in fullness. By your Spirit, energize our actions for justice, even as we await the fulfillment of all your promises. Praise to you, our God, who is true to your promises. Keep us faithful to you always and bless all of our offerings. Amen.

Elaine Bidgood Sveet, Zion Lutheran Church, Minot, North Dakota. Gathering, Pentecost·1 2025, 27. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

Hymn *Sent Out in Jesus' Name* MV#212

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***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude