

Stettler United Church



BESTOGETHER

We are United Churches of Big Valley, Erskine and Stettler.

Date: October 19, 2025
Nineteenth after Pentecost
Theme: The Power of the Word of God

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

Musician: Linda Kneeland

Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

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 Along with Rev. Kwon** ~ October 31, 2025, 1:00 pm
- **Fall Supper ~ Stettler United** ~ October 26 4:00 – 6:30.
- **Fall Suppers ~ Erskine** ~ October 25, 4:30 – 7:30. **Big Valley** ~ October 19, 4:30 – 6:30
- **Pies** ~ Pre-order and pick-up pies prior to the fall supper @ \$15 ea. by calling Lynda @ 403-741-9553.

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

The many months between Pentecost and Advent are marked in the church by the colour green, the colour of growth in faith.

Now, with no big days of celebration in which even the secular world participates, we have time to consider the blessings we've been given, blessings of all kinds in all areas, and how we respond to and with them. Every Sunday is now a day of thanksgiving. Our faith grows as we reflect in gratitude and respond in thanksgiving.

Cheryl Stenson, Glebe Road U.C., Toronto, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 31. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

The world struggles in shadows; a beacon is needed.

The Christ candle lit is the light that is heeded.

Rejoice in the message, for God's love gives direction.

The light of the world is God's holy affection.

As we come together, in faith and hope bound,

this is God's safe place, where God's love is found.

Robert J. Murdock, St. James U.C., Stroud, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 31. Used with Permission.

*Hymn **Now Thank We All Our God VU#236**

Words: Martin Rinckart; English translation: Catherine Winkworth, French translation: Flossette du Pasquier. Music: Johann Cruger.
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Opening Prayer

Loving God, you gave signs and words to your prophets, to remind us how to live as a blessed people, but too often we have failed you, by our words and by our deeds. Even so, you have continued to give us hope.

At the fall of Adam and Eve, you did not desert us; when the floods came, you saved us through Noah. You rescued your people from the chains of enslavement, from the sands of Egypt, and from the gardens of Babylon.

Compassionate God, we thank you for your deep devotion and care, loving us still.

You promised a new covenant of the Spirit to inscribe your love on our hearts, inspiring us to live our lives by your grace. Over and over again, you have uplifted your people. We give thanks and praise for your never-ending care. Amen.

Nancy Styles, Grace U.C., Weyburn, Sask. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 33. Used with Permission.

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, our faith stories tell us that we were created from the clay of the earth. We know that, like a potter, you are continually guiding us into the shape that you need us to be.

Yet we resist. We insist on staying exactly as we have been. We resist learning how to stretch into different places, different shapes, different attitudes.

Your hands, gentle yet firm, continue to work with us, moving us up and down. You cover us in the blessings of the water of life, adding just enough, time and time again, to make us malleable, flexible, willing to become a thing of service, a thing of beauty, a vessel for your justice and care to be carried into the world.

There are times when you must begin again.

When we need to be reduced, once again, to our beginnings, so that you can, once again, add the water of life, remould us, give us a second chance to be your vessels of justice and care.

Forgive us, Potter God, for those times we resisted, for those times we preferred to stay as lumps of clay, for those times we insisted on creating our own shape, for those times we forgot that you know us.

You know who we are and whom we are meant to be. Help us to become what you intend. Amen.

Helen Reed, Camrose U.C., Camrose, Alta. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 35. Used with Permission.

***Hymn God of the Bible MV#28**

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1995 Music: Tony E. Alonso, 2001 Words copyright © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Music copyright © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800-442-1358. OneLicense.net CCLI

Prayer of Illumination

All: As we receive the readings from your holy word, Gracious God, open us to greater understanding. We ask this in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mary Anderson, Glen Abbey U.C., Oakville, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 38. Used with Permission.

Scripture Readings: Ian Coulsey

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5: People with itching ears will turn away from the 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

***Hymn *I've Got Peace like a River* VU#577**

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: African-American spiritual. Public Domain N/A

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

In the blessing we have received, you have given us the responsibility to be a blessing to others, Gracious God.

Use these gifts and the offerings of hearts and lives to be that blessing in the world you love so much. Amen.

Beth W Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 40. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn *Lord, Speak to Me* VU#589

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal 1872. Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1872. Words, Music: Public Domain. N/A

***Commissioning and Benediction**

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

Postlude