



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE
UNITED CHURCH



"Baptism of Christ"

mixed media on canvas and wood by Ivanka Demchuk (Ukrainian, b. 1990), 2015

Baptism of Christ: The 1st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Season after Epiphany
A Service of the Word

11 January 2026 • 10:30 AM

Baptism of Christ: The 1st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“When asked to introduce yourself to a group of people, how do you identify yourself after giving your name? I am a businessman, a housewife, a doctor, a baker? And if you are unemployed or unable to work, how do you feel about declaring this? Because we identify ourselves by what we do, we feel devastated when we are no longer capable of doing it, as though we had lost our very being.

“You are not your occupation. You are not your achievements, you are not your failings, nor your health, wealth or status. All these things are connected with you, but are not you, for you do not cease to exist when these things disappear. Ultimately, who are you? ...

“You are a unique manifestation of God, who is closer to you than you are to yourself. This is the truth of your being, the glory and wonder of it.”

— Gerard W. Hughes (1924-2014), Scottish Jesuit priest and spiritual writer

GATHERING 모임

The Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ's resurrection

Prelude 전주

Tim Bailey

Gathering Chorus (Introit) 찬송 — “Far Above the Noise of Life” GENTLE VOICE



Far a - bove the noise of life, there's a voice that is
gent - ly call - ing. “Leave be - hind your
cares and strife. Come to me. I will give you rest.
Bring your fear and bring your pain. Bring your
an - ger and bring your wor - ry.”

*In the ways we are able—in body or in spirit—we rise for those parts marked with an asterisk ***

Do you hear the voice of Je-sus, gen-tly call-ing, "Come un-to me"? Gen-tle voice, so full of love. Gen-tle words so rich in mer-cy. "You are my be-love-ed child. Come to me. I will give you rest."

Centring Quiet 집중을 위한 조용한 순간

We together hold an intentional period of quiet, during which worshippers are invited to centre themselves and prepare for the worship of God.

Greeting 인사

The Rev. Matthew Emery

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

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship 예배로 부름

Ross Shearer, diaconal ministries student

One: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

Many: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

One: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name,

Many: worship the Lord in holy array.

One: The voice of the Lord is upon the water.

Many: The God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters.

One: The voice of the Lord is powerful.

Many: The voice of God is full of majesty.

ALL: Let us praise the name of the Lord!

* Prayer of the Day 오늘의 기도

Ross Shearer

One: Let us pray.

Many: God of freedom,

your beloved meets us where we are,
immersed in the flow of life.

By his humility and solidarity
raise us from fear and guilt,
and through the arc of the Spirit's flight
make us a people of peace;
through Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness. Amen.

* The Peace 평화의 인사

Rev. Matt

One: 그리스도의 평화가 당신과 함께 하시기를.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

All are invited to share signs of Christ's peace with those around them.

Words of Welcome & News from Our Life Together 교회 소식

Rev. Matt

WORD 말씀

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Anthem — “Lift Your Light” by Mary McDonald

The Choir

Lift your light, let it shine high in the darkness;

Let it shine all over the world, Jesus loves you!

Lift your light, lift it high, high in the darkness;

Jesus is the light of the world. Lift it higher. Lift your light!

Lift your light, let it shine high in the darkness;

Let it shine all over the world, Jesus loves you!

Lift your light, lift it high, high in the darkness;

Jesus is the light of the world. Lift it higher.

Jesus is the light, light of all the world;

Lift the light within you, shine it all around the world.

Let the glory rise; raise it to the sky; Let your light for Jesus shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Lift your light, let it shine high in the darkness;

Let it shine all over the world, Jesus loves you!

Lift your light, lift it high, high in the darkness;

Jesus is the light of the world. Lift it higher and higher and higher and higher!

Lift your light higher and higher! Lift it up higher and higher!

Jesus is the light of the world.

First Reading 성경봉독 — Acts 10:34-43

pew bibles NT p. 129

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 성경봉독 — Matthew 3:13-17

pew bibles NT p. 3

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

IN ENGLISH

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE

after the reading:

One: Amen.

Many: Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism 회증의 세례언약 기념 예식

CALL TO REMEMBRANCE 소개

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATERS OF BAPTISM 세례수를 위한 감사기도

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters
and you created the world by your Word,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Many: We remember and we give thanks, O God.

One: In the time of Noah you washed the earth with the waters of the flood,
and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning.

Many: We remember and we give thanks, O God.

One: In the time of Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, your people Israel
passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom
and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land.

Many: We remember and we give thanks, O God.

One: In the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ
who was nurtured in the waters of Mary's womb.

Many: We remember and we give thanks, O God.

One: He was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan,
became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well,
washed the feet of the disciples,
and sent those disciples forth to baptize all nations
by water and the Holy Spirit.

Many: We remember and we give thanks, O God.

One: Bless this water by your Holy Spirit, gracious God,
that, by it, we may be reminded of our baptism into Jesus Christ.
Shower us once again with your Spirit.
Renew your forgiveness, grace, and love in our lives.
Reconfirm in this place our call to ministry in Christ's name.
Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was and is, and shall always
be, world without end.

Many: Amen.

SIGN OF REMEMBRANCE

During the hymn, the members of the assembly are sprinkled with water from the font in remembrance of their baptism.

HYMN 찬송 — “Remember and Rejoice”

ST. THOMAS

1 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.
2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho - ly name,
3 We pledge our-selves a - new to flee the lures of hell,
4 God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.
5 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.

We bear the sign of Je-sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.
for - ev - er traced by wa-ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame.
to cling to Christ's com - mu-ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell.
Re - new-ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.
We bear the sign of Je-sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

ending with The Lord's Prayer 회중기도와 주기도

Many: 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.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil,
 for Thine is the Kingdom,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

하늘에 계신 우리 아버지여,
 이름이 거룩히 여김을 받으시오며,
 나라의 임하옵시며, 뜻이 하늘에서
 이룬 것같이 땅에서도
 이루어지이다. 오늘날 우리에게
 일용할 양식을 주옵시고, 우리가
 우리에게 죄 지은 자를 사하여 준
 것같이 우리 죄를 사하여
 주옵시고, 우리를 시험에 들게
 하지 마옵시고, 다만 악에서
 구하옵소서. 대개 나라와 권세와
 영광이 아버지께 영원히
 있사옵나이다. 아멘.

At the end of the refrain that follows, children in grade 5 and younger are welcome to go with the leader(s) to Children's Church, in the Lounge on the lower level.

Refrain 찬송 — “God calls you good”

by Paul M. Vasile

1. God calls you good, be-lov-ed child. You are a
 2. God calls me good, be-love-ed child. I am a
 trea - sure deep-ly prized. And you can say to ev -
 trea - sure deep-ly prized. And I can say to ev -
 ery doubt-ing voice, "God calls you good, be-lov-ed
 ery doubt-ing voice, "God calls me good, be-lov-ed
 child." "God calls you good, be-lov-ed child."
 child." "God calls me good, be-lov-ed child."

Sermon 설교 — “Beginnings: Be Loved, Beloved”

Rev. Matt

a brief moment of quiet follows the sermon



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

* Affirmation of Faith: *A New Creed* 신앙의 고백: 우리 신소

We are not alone,
 we live in God's world.

우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.

하나님의 세계에서 삽니다.

We believe in God:

우리는 하나님을 믿습니다.

who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus,
 the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others
 by the Spirit.

만물을 창조하셨고,
 지금도 창조하시며,
 화해시키고 새롭게 하기 위하여,
 말씀이 몸을 이룬 예수님 안에 오셨으며,
 우리와 남들 안에서 성령으로
 역사 하십니다.

We trust in God.

우리는 하나님을 신뢰합니다.

We are called to be the Church:
 to celebrate God's presence,
 to live with respect in Creation,
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus,

우리는 교회를 이루라고 부름받았습니다.
 하나님의 임재를 찬양하고,
 우주 만물을 존중하며 살고,
 남들을 사랑하며 섬기고,
 정의를 추구하며 악에 항거하고,
 십자가형을 당하시고 살아나셔서,

crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death,
in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

우리의 심판자와 희망이 되신
예수님을 선포하라고 부름받았습니다.
삶에서, 죽음에서,
죽음을 넘는 삶에서 하나님이 우리와
함께 하십니다.
우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.
하나님께 감사드립니다.

RESPONSE 응답

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel, in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts 봉헌

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Tim Bailey

PRAYER REQUESTS – As the morning offering is collected:

- in-person worshippers can share prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) on the **purple-topped prayer request cards** found in the pew racks and place them the offering plates as they are passed.
- live-via-Zoom online worshippers are welcome to submit prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) in the Zoom “chat” feature.

* PRESENTING OUR GIFTS 경배 찬양 — The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

choose any version

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures
만복의 근원 하나님 온백성 찬송

here be - low; praise God a-bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
high and low; give thanks to God in love made known:
드리고 저천사여 찬송 하세

praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A- men.
Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it, One. A- men.
 찬 송 성 부 성 자 성령. 아멘.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** 감사기도

Many: God of grace and glory,
 you call us with your voice of flame
 to be your people, faithful and courageous.
 Inspire us with the fire of your Spirit
 to join in his transforming work
 through all that we offer
 and, moreover, with the entirety of who we are.
 We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
 who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Rev. Matt



SENDING 파송

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

* **Hymn** 찬송 — “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Voices United #559

* **Charge and Benediction** 파송과 축도

Rev. Matt

* **RESPONSE** 파송 찬양 — “God Be with You till We Meet...” V.U. #422 – v. 2

Music for harmony singing is available in the hymnal



2 God be with you till we meet a- gain; un-seen wings pro- tect-ing hide you,
2 우리 다시 만날 때 까지 하나님 이 함께 계셔



dai - ly man-na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a- gain.
간 데 마 다 보호 하 며 양식 주 시 기 를 바 라 네



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;
다시 만날 때 다시 만날 때 예수 앞에 만날 때



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a- gain.
다시 만날 때 다시 만날 때 그 때 까지 계심 바 라 네

* **Dismissal** 예배로 부름

One: Go in peace.

Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Holy One.

Many: Thanks be to God.

* **Postlude** 후주

Tim Bailey

Be Our Guest! Come on down to the Lower Hall for coffee or tea or another beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! Access to the Lower Hall is down the stairs outside the door at the front right of the sanctuary or via the elevator at the front left of the sanctuary. Follow the crowds on down, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you!

Life at Cloverdale United Church

Worship

Many thanks to today's ...

readers: Ursula Maxwell-Lewis

ushers/greeters: Carole Teather, Donna Lynch

digital ushers: Daniel Ariss, Ben Son

fellowship time hosts: Sharon McBain, Lorrie Brown

Many ways to give! We welcome your offering in the way that works for you: by cash or cheque in the offering plates, through automatic monthly gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the office to enrol), by free eTransfer from your bank (to cloverdalepastoralcharge@gmail.com), or by credit card via CanadaHelps (service fees apply). Want to give now but don't have cash or cheque? Scan the QR → to be taken to CanadaHelps.



Children are welcome at all services! It is important for families to worship together. Don't feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children—and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles—as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, "faith is caught, not taught!" Children are encouraged to stand and sing with the songs, partake in communion, read and pray along when they can, and join in for the "Early Word"—a time at the front with conversation just for them near the beginning of the service. Most Sundays September through June, we have "Children's Church" activities during the latter two-thirds of the service in the Lounge on the lower level, to which any pre-school through grade 5 aged child is welcome! For those accompanying infants or toddlers who need a spot to 'escape' to during the worship service, feel free to make use of the "**Quiet Room**" off the side of the sanctuary, near the piano, where there you will find comfortable seating, toys, and a changing table all while being able to hear and see the worship service.



Recording and streaming in use: Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship services, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms.

Likewise, from time to time still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence within the sanctuary, you are indicating your consent to the possibility that your likeness may be captured and used in any of these ways. While video capture of congregants in the pews is relatively minimal, if you wish to guarantee you will not ever be depicted on video, the area at the rear centre of the pew seating area is unable to be picked up on camera.



Washrooms can be found just outside the sanctuary through the door at the front right of the space (the northeast corner of the room).



Thank you for **silencing cell phones** and other devices, and for refraining from flash photography.

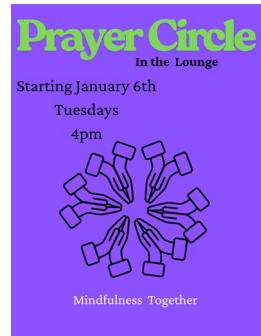
Acknowledgements:

- Cover art from Victoria Emily Jones, "Contemporary icons of the Baptism of Christ", *Art & Theology: Revitalizing the Christian imagination through painting, poetry, music, and more*, 6 January 2018;

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- Offertory Prayer of Dedication by Matthew Emery, adapted from material in *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*, ©2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
- Benediction response – vs. 2 of “God Be with You till We Meet Again”: Words by Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880; public domain; alt'd. Music by William G. Tomer, 1880; public domain. Reproduced from *Voices United: The Hymn and Worship Book of The United Church of Canada*, ©1996 The United Church Publishing House, #422. Korean trans. from 통일찬송가 [Union Hymnal], Korean Hymn Society, 1983, #524.

Prayer Circle: Ross Shearer invites you to participate in the Prayer Circle in the coming New Year, beginning January 6, meeting every Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

This gathering offers a quiet and reflective space for mindfulness, prayer, and the study of scripture, with an opportunity to thoughtfully explore its meaning and relevance in our lives. This Prayer Circle is part of Ross Shearer's field placement project, and all are warmly encouraged to attend.



Learn

Welcoming Yumi Park: This Sunday, we say an official welcome to Yumi Park, who will be serving among us as Intercultural Ministry Coordinator for the winter term of ELL offerings (January to March). Yumi already began her work earlier this week, with the first Thursday class having taken place on January 8 and with considerable time over the past few weeks in orientation by her predecessor, Chohee Won. Yumi and her family have also already joined us for a number of worship services and other events over the past month.

Yumi moved to Canada in the summer of 2016 with her husband and their then-six-month-old daughter, as her husband began



theological studies. She now lives in the Willoughby section of Langley with her husband and their four children—two girls and two boys.

Before coming to Canada, Yumi worked as a mathematics teacher at a Christian school in Korea. Since immigrating, she has been actively involved in church-based educational and mission programs, where she has enjoyed connecting with people from diverse cultural and personal backgrounds. Through her role as Intercultural Ministry Coordinator at Cloverdale United Church, Yumi says that she is grateful for the opportunity to support and walk alongside individuals and families as they build community and belonging.

Meet

Annual Meeting of the Community of Faith: February 1, 2026

In accordance with the provisions in section B.5 of the Bylaws of The United Church of Canada, found in The Manual, 2025 edition....

All members of the Cloverdale United Church are hereby called to the Annual Meeting of the Community of Faith, to be held on the February 1, 2026, at approximately 11:45 am (following the Sunday morning worship service) in the CUC Lower Hall. The agenda for the Annual

Meeting includes reporting on the life of the Community of Faith over the past year, looking ahead at plans and visions for the coming year, approving the Church Council's proposed budget, electing new Church Council members or other officers, and other matters pertaining to the business and governance of our Community of Faith.

At least 20 full members of the congregation must be in attendance in order to conduct business. Adherents (regular participants in our congregation's life who have not [yet] become members) are also invited and encouraged to attend; we customarily vote to extend the privilege of participation and voting in the meeting to adherents when permitted.

For this year's meeting, we'll have the joy of gathering in fellowship over food, too, as the meeting will take place together with a **luncheon** prepared by congregants active with our community of faith's United Church Women unit.

Attendance and participation in the Annual Meeting will also be available for remote participants via Zoom, at the same Zoom link as is used for CUC worship services. (Alas, the luncheon aspect will only be available to in-person participants, as we have yet to figure out how to pass along food over Zoom Meetings... sorry!)

Materials and reports for the Annual Report covering 2025 should be submitted to Lily Lee, office administrator, no later than the end of the day **Monday, January 19** (in order to have annual report booklets ready for distribution on Sunday, January 25).



Save the Date – Haydn’s “Seven Last Words” performance at CUC: Sunday, March 22, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Mark your calendars for a very special musical performance for the Lenten season. The sacred oratorio “The Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross” by Joseph Haydn will be presented by professional-level soloists, choristers from Vancouver’s Vivaldi Chamber Choir, and accompaniment by a double string quartet of professional-level instrumentalists, on Sunday, March 22nd, beginning at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be \$20 (discounted tickets available at \$10), with proceeds above costs supporting one of our mission-and-ministry partners or projects. More information yet to come... but mark your calendars now!

Serve

You Serve with your Stewardship: *“And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him ... and a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’”* (Matthew 3:16-17). Listen! Can you hear the whispering voice of God saying, “You are my child, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased”? In baptism you have been named and claimed as God’s own child. Steward this gift as you grow in faith and action in 2026.

Cloverdale Community Kitchen serving Opportunity: Friday, January 16

Our congregation, together with our siblings at Northwood United Church in Fleetwood, has a volunteer team that serves monthly at the Community Dinner program at the Cloverdale Community Kitchen, now part of the Storehouse Community Hub Society (<https://www.storehousesociety.ca/programs/cloverdale-community-kitchen>).

We serve on the 3rd Friday of each month, so the next serving opportunity is **next Friday, January 16**.

To volunteer, simply show up today around 4:00 pm (4 to 4:30 arrival is OK) **to the Pacific Community Church building** ([5337 180 Street, Surrey, BC V3K 4K5](https://www.google.com/maps/place/5337+180+Street,+Surrey,+BC+V3K+4K5)) to begin meal preparation and setup. Volunteers typically finish up with the post-meal clean-up by between 7:30 and 8:00 pm.

And... if you want to keep informed on an ongoing basis about this great opportunity to express your discipleship to Jesus in a concrete, hands-on ministry of mercy-making and service, just email Bev Woods (a congregant at Northwood) at woodsb@hotmail.com and she’ll add you to the email list. Each time we serve, the crew for that particular night is made of up a different subset of the larger team list, based on who’s available and interested for that date... don’t shy away even if you only want to try it out once!



Pray

New this week...

- In thanksgiving for the life of **Renee** Nicole Good, the Minneapolis resident shot dead by a US Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent on January 7, and for strength, justice, courage, and truth to prevail among all in the United States.
- In thanksgiving for the life of **Tyler**, nephew of CUCer Debbie, even amidst all of its challenges, in the wake of his death over the New Year's holiday... And for God's comfort and peace-surpassing-all-understanding to surround Tyler's parents **Rob** and **Shelley** as they grieve his passing away.
- For all those left mourning in the wake of lives cut far too short by deaths stemming from **addiction** and all its complications, and for all those struggling to know how to support, assist, accompany, or otherwise walk alongside those in active stages of addictions or substance use disorders.
- In thanksgiving for a successful double lung transplant surgery on January 2 for **Nicole**, grand niece of CUCer Fay, and speedy, almost-miracle-like journey of recovery and strengthening.
- In thanksgiving for the witness to Christ that happens among the people and ministries of **Our Place Society** in Victoria, **Osoyoos** United Church, **Pacific Spirit** United Church in Vancouver, **Peachland** United Church, the **Pemberton** new church plant, and **Peninsula** United Church in Surrey. (*from The United Church's regional council prayer cycles*)
- For the nations and peoples of **Iran**, **Iraq**, and **Syria**. *We give you thanks, O God, for:* the resilience of the people who remain in their homelands even when they face constant threats and ongoing violence; the relief and assistance that has been provided to so many; those who have made a new home for refugees fleeing from these countries; those who have worked continually for peace, justice and reconciliation... *And we pray to you, O God, for:* an end to the violence racking these battlefields of global powers; political leaders emerging in these countries who will pursue peace, the common good, and human rights of all groups; the international community to pursue policies that will result in acceptable, just peace for all involved; greater openness to welcoming those displaced or fleeing from these lands, desperately seeking safety and wellbeing. (*from the World Council of Churches' prayer cycle*)

Ongoing...

- For **Estelita**, sister-in-law of Gleny, as she undergoes chemotherapy for cancer.
- For **Malika**, friend of Michell, recently diagnosed with cancer in her stomach and lymph nodes and undergoing chemotherapy.
- For **Sue**, friend of Laurel recently diagnosed with bladder and kidney cancer and preparing for surgery to remove one kidney.
- God of grace and courage, we lift up to you **all those facing the scourge of addiction**, in all its forms. Pour out your power and help them join with you in breaking the bonds that keep them captive.

- Bring help and hope, O God, to all **those facing food insecurity**.
- Hold in your heart, O God, all **those journeying with dementia, Alzheimer's, and other forms of cognitive decline**, and pour strength into those who find themselves as caregivers.
- Lift up, defend, protect, and comfort the people of **Gaza**, good Lord, as they continue facing the violence, starvation, and devastation that has been wrought upon them.
- For those of our congregation who are homebound, incarcerated, in long-term nursing care, or otherwise unable to be with us regularly, including: **Roger, Lorraine, Pauline, Eileen, Joyce, Gerrit, Brenda Steele, and Roy**.

Additions to the prayer list are always welcome! Submissions received in the office by 9:00 am Thursday morning will appear in the bulletin. Petitions regarding specific individuals or circumstances will only be retained on the prayer list for 3 weeks at a time (but can be renewed if changes in the situation warrant).

Other news and notes

Staff Doings: Our associate minister, Pastor Youngsun Cheon, continues to be away, through Saturday, January 17, for a combination of vacation leave followed by a week-long intensive at the Vancouver School of Theology in the area of children's, youth, and family ministries. Rev. Matt is available for pastoral emergencies or other concerns.



God's Mission, Our Gifts

Good Food, Good Futures: In St. John's, NL, Hungry Heart Café & Catering is a place where good food and good hearts come together. For 18 years, this social enterprise of Mission and Service partner Stella's Circle has been serving the community while opening doors for people who face barriers to employment.

At Hungry Heart, every dish tells a story of learning and possibility. The café provides hands-on culinary training and real work experience for people who are rebuilding their lives. Many participants live with the impacts of mental health challenges, trauma, poverty, homelessness, or low literacy. Some are trying to re-enter the workforce after long absences.

What they find at Hungry Heart is a safe space to learn at their own pace. Staff offer mentorship, life-skills support, and steady encouragement. The goal isn't just to teach restaurant skills. It's to help people gain confidence, develop independence, and imagine a future where they can thrive.

Food security is another part of the café's mission. Through the Meals Squared program, customers can add a small donation to their bill. That donation goes



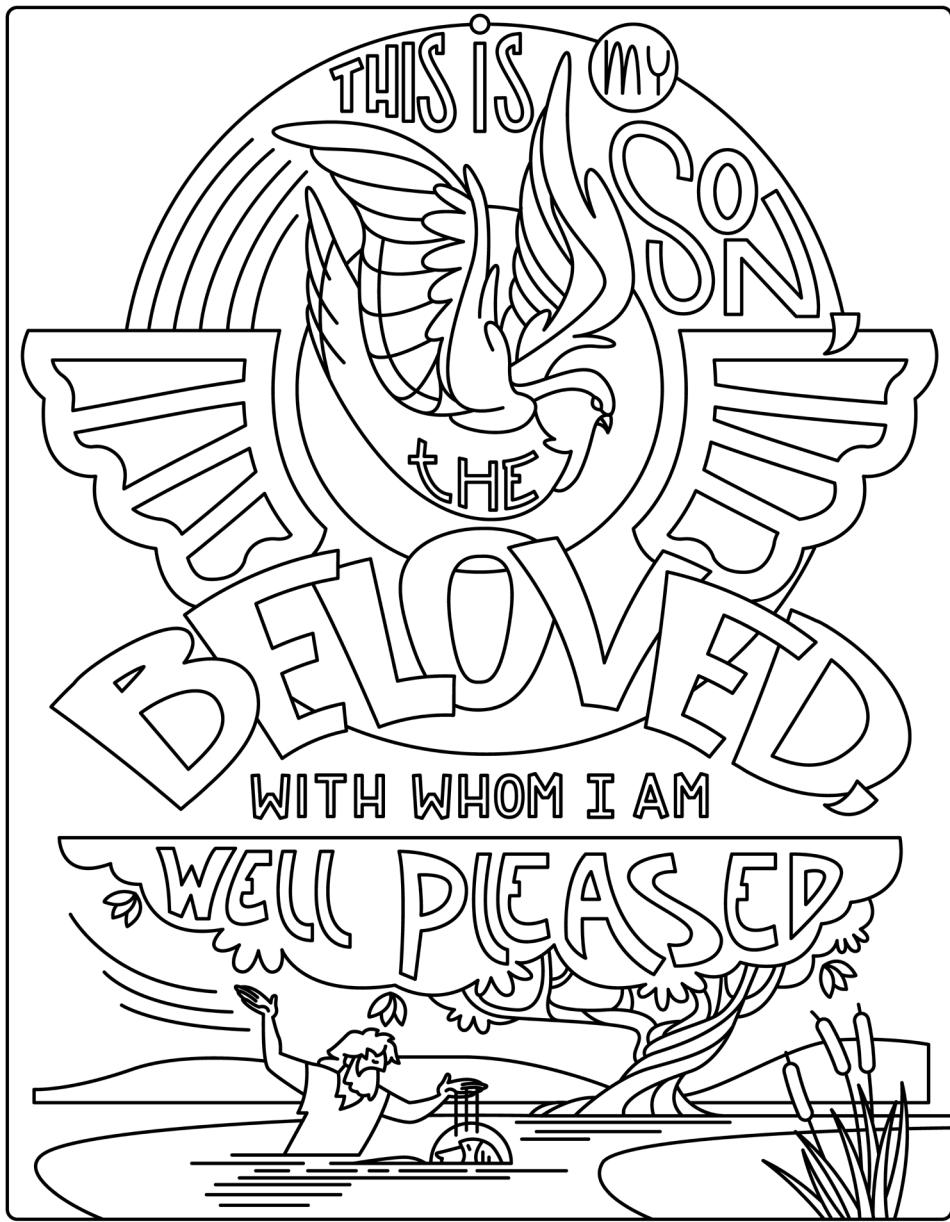
directly toward providing nutritious meals to Stella's Circle participants and other neighbours who are experiencing hunger. It's a simple way to care for the community, one meal at a time.

And behind it all is Stella's Circle, a Mission and Service partner known for responding quickly to changing needs, and for creating programs that meet people where they are. Whether it's updating training opportunities, collaborating with community groups, or addressing rising food insecurity, the people at Stella's Circle continue to innovate so community members can receive the kind of support that makes a real and sustainable difference.

Through [Mission and Service](#), your support helps strengthen Stella's Circle and the Hungry Heart Café, ensuring this community remains a place of opportunity, dignity, and good food shared with care. It's one way to come together to help people build skills, find stability, and move toward the futures they imagine for themselves, reflecting Christ's call to walk with one another in compassion and hope.

Colouring isn't just for kids!

Take this bulletin home with you, disconnect and unplug from all the screens and devices, and spend some meditative, prayerful time colouring your own life into this illustration...



Matthew 3:17 • illustratedministry.com

Welcome to Cloverdale United Church! As we say at nearly every worship service, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey God welcomes you... and so do we.” We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We come from different religious backgrounds, we bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we gather and worship God together as one.



In this lovely old church, we do Sunday morning in some fairly traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We gather around the waters of grace and the feast table of Christ, just as Christians have done for nearly two thousand years. Some of the songs we sing (certainly not *all* of them, though) are ones our grandparents might also have sung in their day. And yet, amidst rituals and rites rooting us in a deep heritage, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and we listen for God’s Spirit still speaking into our lives today. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Have a cup of coffee or a bite to eat with us. Introduce yourself to other worshippers or our pastor. There are plenty of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

We are a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community, reaching out from the historic heart of Surrey at Cloverdale since 1875. We seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community.... to serve others as Jesus would.

Cloverdale United Church recognizes that we worship, live, work, and play in traditional and unceded territories of Coast Salish peoples: primarily the Katzie, the Kwantlen, the Semiahmoo, the Snokomish, the Stolo, the Tsawwassen, and the Wsanec. We give our thanks to them and for them; we offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We seek to live with respect in this piece of Creation; we seek peace and justice among all who have called this land home.

CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH

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Ministers

All of the Congregation

Lead Minister

Rev. Matthew Emery – matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Associate Minister

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Director of Music Ministries

Tim Bailey – tim@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

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Lily Lee – office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Intercultural Ministry Coordinator

Yumi Park (*interim*) – yumi@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Children & Youth Ministries Leader

Ross Shearer – ross@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Church Council Chair

Daniel Ariss – arissd135@gmail.com