

Sunday June 7, 2026

# CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY 2026

Theme from ACF: Luke 5:1-11 “Into the Deep”

Processional

## MV 30 It's a song of Praise to the Maker v1,2,4

V1.It's a song of praise to the Maker, the thrush sings high in the tree It's a song of praise to the Maker, the gray whale sings in the sea And by the Spirit you and I can join our voice to the holy cry And sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

V2.It's a call of life to the Giver when waves and waterfalls roar It's a call of life to the Giver when high tides break on the shore And by the Spirit you and I can join our voice to the holy cry And sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

V4.It's the chorus of all creation, it's sung by all living things It's the chorus of all creation, a song the universe sings And by the Spirit you and I can join our voice to the holy cry And sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

## WELCOME

Simon, Treena:

- S&T: Welcome to the celebration of ministry, introduce ourselves
- S: Land acknowledgment, and welcome to online folks
- T: Brief summary of what we've been up to, including introduction of ACF
- S: Acknowledgment of different ways of living into the way of Jesus: settle in, welcome as you are
- S: Church as Community: welcoming those around us

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Treena:

Please join with me in the call to worship:

ONE: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And with your spirit.**

ONE: As we gather to worship and celebrate, come with all of who you are - bring your joys and fears, your convictions and your doubts, knowing that you are so deeply loved as you are.

**ALL: God, as we gather to worship, meet with us in the deepest places of our being.**

ONE: We live in a world aching for justice, healing, mercy and hope. As followers of Jesus, we are called to join God in the renewal of all things. As we worship, receive all that you need for all you are called to be.

**ALL: Holy Spirit, fall upon us, fill us, empower us, and send us out into the deep.**

### **GATHERING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER**

**Simon:**

#### **TLUS #64 There's a wild hope in the wind**

There's a wild hope in the wind: her whisper is heard on the breeze.  
The gale is her shout that is calling us out.  
There's a wild hope in the wind.

O God in the wind, come gather us in,  
be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

There's a wild hope in the skies: her gown is the blue of forever.  
The purple of night is her heart's pure delight. There's a wild hope in the skies.

O God in the skies, come open our eyes,  
be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

There's a wild hope in the earth: her body provides us with nurture.  
The dark underground is where life can abound.  
There's a wild hope in the earth. O God in the earth, come aid our rebirth,

O God in the earth, come aid our rebirth  
be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION & SCRIPTURE READING**

**Thea:**

Good morning, my name is Thea Sheridan-Jonah, and I am looking forward to serving the regional council as the next president. I've had a chance already to visit ministries across the regional council, and there is something good brewing! For now, I'm here to read our Scripture passage for today. Our reading is from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 5, verses 1 to 11. As I read, remember that these are not just texts to be heard; they are testimonies to what people saw, and what changed them. Pay attention to the words of phrases that stand out to you, and allow these words to settle deep within you. But first, let's pray: Good and gracious God, speak to us through the reading of these Scriptures. You know what it is that we need for the journey ahead. And so come Holy Spirit, speak. Amen.

Luke 5:1-11 (NRSVue)

Once while Jesus<sup>1</sup> was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON - Into the Deep**

**Anna Carter Florence**

**Goodness of God**

## **A NEW CREED**

**Hati Mvundura:**

[Short preamble rooted in the sermon] And so, leaning not only into what Jesus once did on the shores of Galilee, but also in the hope of what Christ is still doing among us now, let's rise together in body or in spirit, and proclaim the faith we share in the words of A New Creed.

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

## **OFFERING**

**Offertory: Your Labour is Not in Vain by The Porters Gate**

**Leenane Sheils:**

Introduction (Brenda Fawkes Bursary Fund) and prayer for offering.

Offering is received.

*After offertory is over, Simon, Treena and Cari place the kneeler center stage.  
Candidates will come up to the stage as their names are mentioned.*

## **CELEBRATING THE CALL TO NEW MINISTRIES**

### **Simon, Treena, Cari, Candidates:**

**Simon:** Jesus Christ came into the world to be the servant of God and all people. As servant Lord, Jesus calls his Church to a ministry of worship, witness, and reconciliation. In baptism we were received as members of his Church and at confirmation we committed ourselves to its ministry.

**Treena:** In order that this ministry of the whole Church may be fulfilled, some are called to the Diaconal Ministry of Education, Service and Pastoral Care and others are called to the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care. In what we are about to do, the church, recognizing God's call to these ministries, prays that those who are called will continue to receive the gifts of the Spirit, as the church accepts and authorizes their ministries.

**Simon:** Long before we came to this moment, God has been at work, moving through the life of The United Church of Canada and through the life of these candidates for ministry who now present themselves before you. Through the movement of the Holy Spirit, these candidates have journeyed the paths that have brought them to this place, on this day, and so we come together to celebrate Christ's ministry in and through them.

### **Presentation of Candidates**

#### **For Admission into the United Church from another Denomination**

*Candidates come forward to the stage as their name is spoken.*

**Treena:** Sometimes those who have been ordained in another denomination come to recognize that they have found a new home – theological and ecclesial – in The United Church of Canada. When this happens they seek to transfer their ministry into this denomination. Today, we celebrate that God has brought such ministers into our midst.

**Cari:** I present Martha Juillerat Ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church USA, and Fredrick Thondhlana Ordained Minister of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe. Both desire to serve within the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada.

Martha and Fredrick have already served among us, and we believe that they are called and equipped for this ministry.

## **For Ordained Ministry**

**Treena:** It is the responsibility of the Church to seek, train and nurture those whom God has called to serve in ordained ministries. What are the names of those being presented for Ordination today?

**Cari:** I present to you Leslie Buerschaper and Brian Pankratz, candidates for ordination to the ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care. The Mountain Candidacy Board of The Board of Vocation believes that they are called and equipped for the ministry they will serve.

**Simon:** Leslie and Brian, do you believe God is calling you to the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care within The United Church of Canada, and do you accept this call?

**Candidates for Ordination (Candidates respond individually):**

I do believe, and I accept this call.

**Simon:** (to all candidates) As per our Basis of Union, do you believe in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and do you commit yourself anew to God?

**Candidates (responding together):**

I do believe and recommit myself to God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

**Simon:** Are you willing to exercise your ministry in accordance with the Scriptures, in continuity with the faith of the Church, and subject to the oversight and discipline of The United Church of Canada?

**Candidates (responding together):** I am willing, God being my helper.

**Treena Duncan:** (to all the gathered people) Church, we are gathered together to welcome these people into their particular ministries. Those who, on our behalf, have inquired about them and examined them believe they are called and equipped to serve God in these ministries. Is it your will to receive, to authorize, and to support them for the ministry to which each has been called?

**All:** It is our will. We will support them. Glory be to God.

*Leslie, Brian and Fredrick return to their seats.*

*Admission candidates remain and their supporters come forward.*

**Admission into the United Church from another Denomination**

**Simon:** Reverend Martha Juillerat, we recognize your ordination and rejoice that you have chosen to join this part of Christ's Church in its ministry. Will you perform all the duties of your office according to the doctrine and polity of The United Church of Canada?

**Martha:** I will, God being my helper.

**Simon:** Martha, it is with great joy that we receive you into the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in The United Church of Canada.

*(handshakes of welcome by Simon, Treena, Cari)*

**Presentation of Symbolic Gifts**

**Simon (Pottery):** Martha, receive this gift of a chalice and plate and participate in your ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care with reverence and joy.

**Treena (Certificate):** Martha, with a humble and joyful heart, know that you are part of the long line of Christ's ministers called and set apart to serve God.

**Cari (Bible):** Martha, receive this Bible, and proclaim in word and action the gospel of Christ with diligence and love. And receive this handmade place setting from First Third ministry.

*Martha returns to her seat while Fredrick comes up.*

**Sung Response: Spirit of the Living God VU 376 refrain**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

**Simon:** Reverend Fredrick Thondhlana, we recognize your ordination and rejoice that you have chosen to join this part of Christ's church in its ministry. Will you perform all the duties of your office according to the doctrine and polity of The United Church of Canada?

**Fredrick:** I will, God being my helper.

**Simon:** Fredrick, it is with great joy that we receive you into the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in The United Church of Canada.

*(handshakes of welcome by Simon, Treena, Cari)*

**Presentation of Symbolic Gifts - Pottery**

**Simon (Pottery):** Fredrick, receive this gift of a chalice and plate and participate in your ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care with reverence and joy.

**Treena (Certificate):** Fredrick, with a humble and joyful heart, know that you are part of the long line of Christ's ministers called and set apart to serve God.

**Cari (Bible):** Fredrick, receive this Bible, and proclaim in word and action the gospel of Christ with diligence and love. And receive this handmade place setting from First Third ministry.

*Fredrick returns to his seat while Leslie steps forward.*

**Sung Response: Spirit of the Living God VU 376 refrain**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

**Ordination to Word and Sacrament - Leslie Buerschaper  
Prayer and Laying on of Hands.**

*Leslie steps forward with those she has chosen to join in the laying on of hands.*

**Treena:** Leslie, you're invited to kneel.

*Leslie kneels, sits or remains seated as appropriate for her. Then hands are laid on by the Presiding Officer, Executive Minister, Vocational Minister and those chosen by the candidate.*

**Simon:** God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, fulfill Leslie's call to Ordained ministry in your Church. Fill her, empower her, and equip her by your Spirit with the gifts for that ministry. Amen.

**Simon:** In the name of Jesus, and by the authority of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council, I declare that Leslie Buerschaper has been Ordained to the ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care within The United Church of Canada.

*After standing, a stole is placed around shoulders by someone in the candidate's group or someone from their home congregation or the congregation which they will be serving.*

### **Presentation of Symbolic Gifts**

**Simon - Pottery:** Leslie, receive this gift of a chalice and plate and participate in your ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care with reverence and joy.

**Treena - certificate:** Leslie, with a humble and joyful heart, know that you are part of the long line of Christ's ministers called and set apart to serve God.

**Cari - Bible:** Leslie, receive this Bible, and proclaim in word and action the gospel of Christ with diligence and love. And receive this handmade place setting from First Third ministry.

### **Acclamation**

**Simon:** People of God, we celebrate this newly Ordained Minister of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care. All God's people say AMEN!

**Many:** Amen!

*The party that came up with Leslie returns to seats*

### **Sung Response: Spirit of the Living God VU 376 refrain**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us

### **Ordination to Word and Sacrament - Brian Pankratz**

#### **Prayer and Laying on of Hands.**

*Brian steps forward with those he has chosen to join in the laying on of hands.*

**Treena:** Brian, you're invited to kneel.

*Brian kneels, sits or remains seated as appropriate for him. Then hands are laid on by the Presiding Officer, Executive Minister, Vocational Minister and those chosen by the candidate.*

**Simon:** God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, fulfill Brian's call to Ordained ministry in your Church. Fill him, and empower him, and equip him by your Spirit with the gifts for that ministry. Amen.

**Simon:** In the name of Jesus and by the authority of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council, I declare that Brian Pankratz has been Ordained to the ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care within The United Church of Canada.

*After standing, a stole is placed around shoulders by someone in the candidate's group or someone from their home congregation or the congregation which they will be serving.*

### **Presentation of Symbolic Gifts**

**Simon - Pottery:** Brian, receive this gift of a chalice and plate and participate in your ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care with reverence and joy.

**Treena - certificate:** Brian, with a humble and joyful heart, know that you are part of the long line of Christ's ministers called and set apart to serve God.

**Cari - Bible:** Brian, receive this Bible, and proclaim in word and action the gospel of Christ with diligence and love. And receive this handmade place setting from First Third ministry.

### **Acclamation**

**Simon:** People of God, we celebrate this newly Ordained Minister of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care. All God's people say AMEN!

**Many:** Amen!

*The party that came up with Brian returns to seats.*

### **VU 376 Spirit of the Living God v1**

Spirit of the living God  
Fall afresh on me  
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **Simon, Treena:**

- S: Instructions, settle in
- S: Words of context (flowing out of ACF's sermon)
- Words on Institution
  - Simon: On the night before he died, Jesus gathered in the upper room with those who were closest to him - those who had witnessed glimpses of God's reign breaking through all around Jesus. As he sat with them, he took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
  - Treena: In the same way, Jesus took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."
- S: Epiclesis/Prayer over the elements
- T: Inviting servers to come forward
- Serving

### **MV 194 Bread of life, Feed my Soul (During communion)**

1. Bread of life, feed my soul, as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart with the grace and mercy you impart.

2. I have heard your voice calling, "Come, my friend, and share in the feast that is laid out for you to show how much I care."

3. Bread of life, help me live a life as pure and true as Jesus did. Bread of life, help me see the boundless love of Christ for you and me.

4. I have heard your voice calling, "Come, my friend, and share in the feast that is laid out for you to show how much I care."

5. Bread of life, feed my soul, as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart with the grace and mercy you impart.

- Prayer after communion:
  - T: God, thank you for this life you have given us, and for the ways you call us to be in this world - not because we are fearless or certain, but because of this hope you've instilled in us.
  - S: Take our ordinary lives - our hearts and all of who we are - and use them for extraordinary love. Send us from this table, ready to follow your Spirit into the deep. In Jesus' name, amen.

## **INSTALLATION OF NEW PRESIDENT**

### **Treena calls Thea to come forward**

**Simon, Treena, Thea:**

**Treena:** In Christ, all those who are baptized are called to continue Jesus' ministry in making the good news good to all people - both within the Church and beyond it. Now you are called, by the grace of God and the will of Pacific Mountain Regional Council, to a particular ministry as President.

You are called, further, to be a servant of the Word among this Regional Council and communities of faith, and to exercise pastoral care for all its people. May you seek the help and guidance of God, and call upon the support that we, the members of the Regional Council, promise you today.

### **Promises of the Incoming President**

**Simon:** (speaking to Thea) Thea, will you exercise your ministry in accordance with the Scriptures, in continuity with our tradition, and within the polity of The United Church of Canada?

**Thea:** I will, God being my helper.

### **Promises of the Region**

**Simon:** (to the gathered people) Please rise, where you are, and if you are able. Will you, the members of Pacific Mountain Regional Council, support and encourage Thea with the work of your heart, the work of your hands, and your prayers? If so, please answer "We will, God being our Guide."

**All:** We will, God being our guide.

### **Laying on of Hands**

*President-Elect kneels; President and Executive Minister lay hands upon head*

**Simon:** God, send your Holy Spirit upon your servant Thea, that she may minister faithfully in the office of the President of The Pacific Mountain Regional Council of The United Church of Canada. Amen.

*(newly installed President rises)*

**Simon:** Receive this stole, may it be a symbol to you and to others of God's ministry through you as President of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council of the United Church of Canada.

**Treena:** Receive also this towel, a symbol of service. May it remind you to serve with wisdom, humility, and selflessness in this Regional Council.

### **CLOSING BENEDICTION, Into the Deep**

**Thea**

### **MV 26 "Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)"**

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging  
Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet  
Your love is a mystery, how you gently lift me  
When I am surrounded, your love carries me  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing  
Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising  
All the joy that's growing deep inside of me  
Every time I see you, all your goodness shines through  
I can feel this God song, rising up in me  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging

Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet

Your love is a mystery, how you gently lift me

When I am surrounded, your love carries me

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Your love makes me sing

Hallelujah, Hallelujah