

27 September 2026
Season of Creation
Orange Shirt Sunday

THIS WEEK AT BRECHIN

Minister: Rev. Katherine Brittain

Music Director and Choir Leader: Tim Weger

Leader: Bonnie Haapala

Greeters: Linda Whittome & Peggy Jensen

Power Point: Jim Boggs

Announcements Preparation: Matt Haapala

Audio Visual: Ian Gartshore

Coffee Servers: Garth Whittome & Don Middleton

Welcome Table: Diane Morris

Centring and Land Acknowledgement and Lighting the Christ Candle

Centering Hymn: "Open Our Hearts"

(Words & music: Jim Strathdee; French trans. David Fines, 2006

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Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.
(Open our hearts)

Call to Worship

(David Sparks, Rossland BC, 2026. Gathering Pentecost 2, Year A)

One: Joining with light and shade, we will praise our God.

**All: The blue of the sky, the glow of the beckoning dawn,
sing God's praises.**

One: With flowing water and pounding seas, we will praise our God.

**All: The mighty ocean, the trickling stream,
proclaim their Creator's marvellous power.**

One: With hills and valleys, we will praise our God.

All: With the dazzling heights, the lowest valleys,

One: with soaring eagle and busy ant, we will praise our God.

**All: Each bird, each animal, each tiny insect, and each person of humankind
makes clear God's creative presence, and so we praise our God.**

Affirming statement:

**All: As an Affirming Ministry we boldly declare that we fully welcome and include
the full participation of all people in the life and work of Ministry as we journey
together, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, marital status,
mental or physical ability, beliefs, cultural backgrounds, or economic circumstance.
We are dedicated to being good stewards of God's world, working and living towards
justice and wholeness for all God's people.**

Prayer for Orange Shirt Sunday

(By Sara Stratton, United Church of Canada Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator)

One: Creator,

You made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

All: You made us as people, as communities, and as families.

You intend for us to grow and flourish together.

You command us to do good works, to be generous, and to build a good life for all.

One: Some of us wear orange today to say that we did not always
experience what you want for us,
because we were taken away from our families and communities
against our will.

**All: Some of us wear orange today to acknowledge that we are not yet
who you intend us to be,
and that we have not lived up to your commandments.
All of us are wearing orange today to say that Every Child Matters,
and that we want to help create a future that values all Indigenous peoples.**

One: Our prayers today are not simple expressions of hope for justice,
they are our commitment to create your justice on earth.

**All: We pray... to acknowledge the harm caused by residential institutions
and to honour all who were taken
... for the end of racial discrimination against Indigenous children
... for the end of racist colonial systems that
continue to harm all Indigenous peoples
... for the humility to open ourselves to the task before us,
and the courage to work together.**

One: You tell us to build up a good foundation for the future,
so that we might “take hold of the life that is really life.”
We wear orange today, and we commit to the life
that you intend us to live together. Amen.

Hymn: TLUS 109 “Beautiful Things”

*(Words and music: Michael Gungor and Lisa Gungor
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**All this pain.
I wonder if I'll ever find my way;
I wonder if my life could really change at all.**

**All this earth.
Could all that is lost ever be found;
could a garden come out from this ground at all?**

**You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of us.**

All around,
hope is springing up from this old ground.
Out of chaos life is being found in you.

You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of us.
You make me new,
you are making me new.
You make me new,
you are making me new.

You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of us.

Scripture: Exodus 17:1-17 and Matthew 21:23-32

Response:

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon: Tricky Questions

Rev Katherine Brittain

Hymn:

MV 30 "It's a Song of Praise to the Maker"

(Words: Ruth Duck, 1992; Music: Ron Klusmeier, 1992, Words © 1992 by GIA Publications, Inc.

ARR. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com 800-442-01358

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1. **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,**

**Refrain: And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.**

2. **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, R**

3. It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum along.
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song, R
4. 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, R

Affirmation of faith

(from Iona Abbey Worship Book, pp 17)

With the whole church, we affirm
that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ,
empowered by the Spirit.

With people everywhere we affirm,
God's goodness at the heart of humanity
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

With all Creation, we celebrate
the miracle and wonder of life
the unfolding purpose of God
forever at work, in ourselves
and our world.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Invitation to Offering

Offering Hymn: MV 156 "Dance with the Spirit"

(Words & music: Jim Strathdee, 1995)

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**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life abornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
move with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life abornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
sing with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life abornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

Offering Prayer

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (Unison)

**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,
And the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen**

Announcements: Life and Work of the Church

Hymn: VU 559 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

(Words: Robert Robinson 1758, alt.)

Music: John Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II 1813

Word alterations copyright © 1993 The Pilgrim Press)

- 1. Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.**
- 2. Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.**

3. O, to grace how great a debtor
daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.

Commissioning and Benediction

(written by David Sparks, Rossland BC, in Gathering Pentecost 2 2026, pp38)

One: This is the moment of leaving

All: This has been the time of renewal.

One: These are the moments of challenge.

All: This is the invitation to bring justice.

One: This is the moment of hope,

All: hope that runs counter to despair.

One: These are the moments of faith community,

All: a community united in friendship and service.

One: May we go out into the wider community,
renewed and inspired to live in God's world.