

June 6, 2021  
Second Sunday after Pentecost

**We Gather In God's Presence**

**Prelude:** "Here I Am, Lord" by Don Schutte, setting by John Carter

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

**Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...**

**Call to Worship**

On an ordinary Sunday, we gather to worship God.

**We gather, trusting God will speak to us**

**and hoping God will surprise us;**

**we gather, believing Jesus will be with us**

**and hoping Jesus will work through us;**

**we gather, with open hearts, that the Spirit may fill us**

**and with open hands, that we might be a gift to others.**

On special days, like today, we gather remembering that

on this very week in 1925 the United Church of Canada was created,

**and we remember that since that day God has spoken to us,**

**surprised us, walked with us, worked through us, filled us with the Spirit,**

**and we have been a gift from God to our communities and the world.**

May our journey to the dominion of God continue,

as a congregation, as a denomination, as the body of Christ.

**Let us praise the Lord, our God.**

**Hymn VU 314 "Come Now, Almighty King"**

Come now, almighty King,

help us your name to sing, help us to praise;

one God all glorious, ever victorious,

come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come now, incarnate Son,

your life in us begun, our prayer attend;

come, and your people bless,

come, give your word success;

stablish your righteousness, Saviour and friend!

Come holy Comforter,

your sacred witness bear in this glad hour;

your grace to us impart, now rule in every heart,

never from us depart, Spirit of power!

To the great One in Three,

eternal praises be for evermore;

your sovereign majesty may we in glory see,

and to eternity love and adore!

## **Opening Prayer** *(unison)*

On the day of Pentecost, O God, the people of Israel were awestruck and amazed as the power of your Holy Spirit blew into the souls of your disciples. The power of your Holy Spirit continues to blow. Blow into the souls of your present-day disciples, blow into our souls. The power of your Holy Spirit continues to work in your church today, as it did 96 years ago, as it did on the very first day of Pentecost. What, we want to know, do you hope we will do with your life-giving energy in 2021 and beyond? Ought we store it up in a battery for when the power goes out? Ought we expend it for our own benefit? Or ought we do as you model for us, lavish it on the broken, the lost, the lonely, the disenfranchised? Come blow through our church and into the world in which we live today. This we pray in the name of our Saviour, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

## **We Are Blessed By God**

**Time for the Young and the Young @**



**Anthem:** "Ave verum corpus" By W. A. Mozart, arranged by Norman Abbott  
performed by Nancy Quinn and Norman Abbott

*Ave, ave, verum corpus* -- Hail, hail, true body  
*natum de Maria Virgine*, -- born of the Virgin Mary,  
*Vere passum immolatum* -- Who truly suffered, sacrificed  
in Cruce pro homine, -- on the Cross for man,  
*Cujus latus perforatum* -- Whose pierced side overflowed  
*unda\* fluxit et\* sanguine*, -- with water\* and blood,  
*Esto nobis prae gustatum\*\** -- Be for us a foretaste\*\*  
*in mortis examine*. -- In the test of death.

## **Responsive Reading: Psalm 138**

I praise you, O God, with all my heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praises.

**I bow down toward your holy temple**

**and praise your name for your love and faithfulness;**

for you have exalted your name  
and your word above everything.

**On the day that I called, you answered me,**

**and put new strength in my soul.**

All earth's rulers shall praise you,  
when they hear the words of your mouth.

**They shall sing of your ways, O God,  
sing that your glory is great.**

For though you are high, you care for the lowly.

**As for the proud, you humble them from afar.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me;

**you stretch out your hand against my enemies' rage;  
your powerful hand delivers me.**

You will fulfil your purpose for me.

**Your love, O God, is eternal.**

**Do not leave unfinished the work of your hands.**

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 8:4-20, 11:14-15**

<sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, <sup>5</sup> and said to him, “You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” <sup>6</sup> But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the LORD, <sup>7</sup> and the LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. <sup>8</sup> Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. <sup>9</sup> Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”

<sup>10</sup> So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. <sup>11</sup> He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; <sup>12</sup> and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. <sup>13</sup> He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup> He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. <sup>15</sup> He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. <sup>16</sup> He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. <sup>17</sup> He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. <sup>18</sup> And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day.”

<sup>19</sup> But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, <sup>20</sup> so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

<sup>14</sup> Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship.” <sup>15</sup> So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

*For those of you who are interested, the other readings for this week are: **2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35.** You can look them up on [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) and search for the passage..... in any translation you prefer (ie. King James - KJV, NKJV, NRSV, etc.)*

**Meditation:** “The Holy Spirit Speaks”

## Hymn VU 213 "Rejoice, The Lord Is King"

Rejoice the Lord is King!  
Your risen Lord adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing  
and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our sins,  
he took his seat above.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail;  
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope,  
for Christ, the judge, shall come  
to glorify the saints  
for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

### **We Respond To God's Grace**

#### **Invitation to Invest in God's Mission**

Truly I tell you, we are a blessed people. We are blessed with material and financial wealth; with gifts and skills honed with practice; with time, time, and more time right now; and we live in a world that is crowded with hurts, pains, and injuries that will not heal. With compassion, we reach out a hand of grace to offer reconciliation, healing, and wholeness for those who mourn, for those who are held captive to addictions, for those who lack the necessities of a life of dignity. We reach out our own hands, and when we are unable to be there in person, we reach out to support others who are able to be where the need is greatest. We present our tithes and our other offerings.

May all that we offer be used, Loving God, not to feed strangers we do not know, but to feed our sisters and brothers who hunger for companionship, as well as for food; who look for a heart which will welcome them, as much as a place to sleep; who long for those who will accept them for who they are, not see them as those who are worthless. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer**

Holy One, we thank you for the gift of the power of the Holy Spirit that you extend to us. When we accept it, it enables us to live according to your hopes and dreams for us. It empowers us to pray for the little child struggling with fears and the grandfather facing failing health; for the parent who lies awake till the early morning hours and the teenager pressured by peers; for the lonely who are prey to con artists and all of us with ordinary aches, pains, and worries; for those who work through the night and those who sleep in littered parks; for those who are called exceptional and those who are differently-gifted; for those who are filled with doubts and those who spill over with laughter; for Joyous praisers of your name and seekers of hope; for those walled out by prejudice and hate and babies who cry from hunger; for the poor who share their last coin with those in greater need and all the ordinary people around the world. This week in our prayers we remember especially Guilds Pastoral Charge (New Scotland United Church and Ridge Community Church) and their minister Melodee Lovering; the people of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland); the descendants and survivors of Indigenous Residential Schools in Canada, especially in light of the recent discovery of the school in Kamloops; the Rev. Lynne Allin, Pastor Mark Beach and his wife, Tabitha Carey, Ron Dickey, Bill Latham, Bill Parcels, Doreen Snow, and their loved ones and caregivers and those known only in the silence of our own hearts.....

Finally, we thank you for the gift of your power that empowers us to work to change the current conditions that prevent this world from being a place where all have what they need to thrive. We gather all of these prayers and lift them up to you in the words that Jesus taught us, singing:

**Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil**

**for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now as forever.**

**Amen.**

### **Hymn VU 533 "When in Our Music God is Glorified"**

When in our music God is glorified,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried  
Hallelujah!

How often, making music, we have found  
a new dimension in the world of sound,  
as worship moved us to a more profound  
Hallelujah!

So has the church in liturgy and song,  
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,  
Hallelujah!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night  
when utmost evil strove against the light?  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
Hallelujah!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always  
Hallelujah!

### **Commissioning and Benediction**

Let us live in this world as God's beloved children,  
Empowered by God's Holy Spirit.

**May we use the power gifted to us by the Spirit  
with compassion and with wisdom.**

**May we walk beside those living in shadows,  
those working multiple jobs, those raising children on their own,  
those who are angry, those who have been victims of hatred and prejudice.**

May we share the power of God's love to heal and make whole.

**Amen**

**Sung Response: VU 974 "Amen"**

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen!

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen!

**Postlude:** "Come, Thou Almighty King" by Felice de Giardini, arranged by Cindy Berry

### **Announcements.....**

#### **Scripture Lessons for next week:**

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Psalm 20; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34