



Celebration of Ministry a Service of Word & Feast

SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2023
10am Pacific / 11am Mountain
Communion will be offered.

LIVE STREAMING and In-Person
University of the Fraser Valley | Abbotsford BC

Refining fire. Living stones.



2023 Celebration of Ministry

“We sing of a church
seeking to continue the story of Jesus
by embodying Christ’s presence in the world.
We are called together by Christ
as a community of broken but hopeful believers,
loving what he loved,
living what he taught,
striving to be faithful servants of God
in our time and place.”

—A Song of Faith (2006)

*In the way you are able, in body or in spirit, **please rise for those parts marked with an asterisk** “*”
Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices.*

GATHERING

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

Gathering Music

The CMUC Band

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Matthew Emery & Rev. Rhian Walker

Holy Place: Acknowledging the Territory

Lindsay Veenstra

Holy Presence: The Light of Christ

* **Opening Hymn** — “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” *Voices United #315*

* **Greeting**

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.

* **Prayer of the Day**

One: Let us pray.
Mighty Wind,
who danced over the deep and surveyed the shapeless void,
dance over us now and ready us for your creative purpose.
Divine Word,
who entered into unruly chaos and called forth light and life,
call to us now and open us to new expressions of grace.

Eternal Artist,
who formed us in your likeness and claimed us as kin,
re-form and refine us to be bearers of your blessing.

Many: **Holy Trinity, One God, who gathered the primeval waters,
gather us in, then send us out,
our voices echoing creation's song:
How majestic is your name in all the earth! Amen.**

Remembrance of Baptism: The Ministry of All Believers

CALL TO REMEMBRANCE

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

One: God be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

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**—“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Voices United #559

WORD

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

Scripture Reading—1st Peter 2:4-10

Rev. Tim Bowman

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Beth Hayward

* **Hymn**—“Lover Of My Soul” by Jonathan McReynolds

* **Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed** *A PMRC AGM First-Third Participant*

One: There are a variety of gifts given

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are a variety of ways that we may serve God,

but it is the same God we serve.

There are a variety of ministries to which people are called,

but the same Spirit of God who energizes them all.

And so together we affirm the common faith God has gifted to us:

**Many: 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.

CELEBRATING THE CALL TO NEW MINISTRIES

*We call upon the Spirit to bless and sanctify
those whom God has newly called to the Order of Ministry*

The Preamble

Treena Duncan & Deborah Richards

Presentation of Candidates

Treena, Deborah, & Rev. Brenda Fawkes

FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY

Derry Bott and Frances Kitson are presented and asked to affirm their acceptance of their call

FOR DIACONAL MINISTRY

John Helps is presented and asked to affirm his acceptance of his call

Questions of Faith and Commitment

The candidates are asked the questions mandated by our Basis of Union.

Then, the executive minister invites the Regional Council to voice its affirmation:

Friends, in Christ's love, 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?

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

* **Hymn** — “Spirit of Life”

Voices United #381

Commissioning to Diaconal Ministry

JOHN HELPS

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

DECLARATION

SUNG RESPONSE — “Testify To Love”

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLIC GIFTS

ACCLAMATION

Ordination to Word and Sacrament

DERRY BOTT

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

DECLARATION

SUNG RESPONSE — “Testify To Love”

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLIC GIFTS

ACCLAMATION

FRANCES KITSON

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

DECLARATION

SUNG RESPONSE — “Testify To Love”

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLIC GIFTS

ACCLAMATION

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* **Hymn** — “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me ”

Voices United #575

Invitation to the Feast

Gathering the Gifts and Preparing the Table

Monetary gifts in this morning's offering will go to the regional council's student bursary fund

OFFERTORY MUSIC — “Lean On Me”

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrate God's Presence, *Prayer F*

One: The Spirit of God be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to God.**

One: Give thanks to our God!

Many: **All our thanks, all our praise!**

One: Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

Before all that is, You were God.
Outside all we know, You are God.
After all is finished, You will be God.
Archangels sound the trumpets,
Angels teach us their song,
Saints pull us into your presence.
And this is our song:

Many: ♪ **You are holy, you are whole.**

You are always ever more than we ever understand.

You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.

**Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.**

**You are holy, you are wholeness;
you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!**

Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God! ♪

— *Sanctus paraphrase: “You Are Holy” by Per Harling*

One: Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

You beyond the galaxies,
You under the oceans,
You inside the leaves,
You pouring down rain,
You opening the flowers,
You feeding the insects,
You giving us your image,
You carrying us through the waters,
You holding us in the night,
Your smile on Sarah and Abraham,
Your hand with Moses and Miriam,
Your words through Deborah and Isaiah,
You lived as Jesus among us,
Healing, teaching, dying, rising,
Inviting us all to your feast.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Holy God, we remember your Son,
His life with the humble,
His death among the wretched,
His resurrection for us all:
Your wisdom our guide,
Your justice our strength,
Your grace our path to rebirth.

And so we cry, Mercy:

Many: Mercy!

One: And so we cry, Glory:

Many: Glory!

One: And so we cry, Blessing:

Many: Blessing!

One: Holy God, we beg for your Spirit.

Enliven this bread,
Awaken this body,
Pour us out for each other.
Transfigure our minds,
Ignite your church,
Nourish the life of the earth.
Make us, while many, united,
Make us, though broken, whole,
Make us, despite death, alive.

One: And so we cry, Come, Holy Spirit:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

One: And so the church shouts, Come, Holy Spirit:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

One: And so the earth pleads, Come, Holy Spirit:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

One: You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three,

Our Life, our Mercy, our Might,
Our Table, our Food, our Server,
Our Rainbow, our Ark, our Dove,
Our Sovereign, our Water, our Wine,
Our Light, our Treasure, our Tree,
Our Way, our Truth, our Life.

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!
Praise now, Praise tomorrow, Praise forever.

And so we cry, Amen:

Many: Amen!

Sharing the Feast

MUSIC DURING THE COMMUNION:

“Come Just As You Are” by Crystal Lewis

Prayer after Communion

Many: Life-giving God,
may we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and all creation will live to praise your name. Amen.

SENDING

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

* Hymn — “Oh Happy Day”

* Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response — “Sent Out in Jesus Name”

More Voices #212



Recording and streaming in use: Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship service, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms. Likewise, still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence, you are acknowledging the possibility that your likeness could be captured and used in any of these ways.

Acknowledgements:

- Prayer of the Day adapted from *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, vol. 53.1 – Lectionary Aids for 2019-2020, Year A, ©2019 Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Waters of Baptism adapted from *Book of Worship: United Church of Christ*, ©1986 United Church of Christ Office of Church Life and Leadership, and *Worshiping into God's Future*, “Affirming Baptism: Simple Words and Acts”, ©2005 Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ.
- Prayer of Thanksgiving at the conclusion of the Celebration of Ministry rites adapted from a prayer by Alydia Smith written for the Celebration of Ministry Service of the Toronto Conference of The United Church of Canada, 2014.
- Great Prayer of Thanksgiving by Gail Ramshaw, in *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada*, ©2000 The United Church Publishing House.
- Sanctus Paraphrase (“You Are Holy...”): Text from traditional Christian liturgical text, paraph. by Per Harling, 1990; Text and music ©1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin Augsburg Fortress.
- Prayer after Communion from *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada*, ©2000 The United Church Publishing House.