



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, October 7, 2018

Thanksgiving Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Pat Dyck Bunkosky
Pianist: Sharon Veer
Organist: Patti McCleary

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"The root of joy is gratefulness...
It is not joy that makes us grateful;
it is gratitude that makes us joyful."
— Brother David Steindl-Rast*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Hymn: MV #12 Come Touch Our Hearts
(verses 2 & 5) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: Now is the time of reflection;

ALL: God's Word will gently come home to us.

ONE: Now is the time of joyful praise;

ALL: we will not hold back our singing.

ONE: Now is the time for giving thanks;

**ALL: our hearts overflow as we remember
our Generous Creator.**

ONE: Now is the time to recall and then release
our anxieties.

**ALL: God's peace will be our peace.
God's joy will be our joy.**

ONE: Let us celebrate God's presence.

Adapted from: David Sparks, *Gathering* Pentecost 2 2018, page 32.

Worship Schedule

Fruits of the Spirit Sermon Series

Oct 14	"Patience" - World Food Sunday	- Norma Hain
Oct 21	"Love" - Potluck Lunch	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Oct 28	"Generosity" - Stewardship Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 4	"Gentleness" - All Saints Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Follow Moderator Richard Bott



Moderator Richard Bott's [welcome message](#): With so many things happening in our church and in the world around us, Moderator Richard Bott invites us to listen carefully to ourselves and to one another, and then to let our action be full of love.

[Watch the Moderator's message now.](#)

The Moderator has also launched a [Facebook page](#). He invites you to join him on his journey as Moderator [here](#)

[Read More](#)

Opening Hymn: VU p. 820 Psalm 100 – Make a Joyful Noise
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer & Jesus' Prayer

**If only we heard as you are able to,
then the eternal song of collective voices
would break into our worry,
and the song would flow through us
and free us to choose joy.**

**O Divine Minstrel, collect these voices
and set them upon your breath.**

**Free too, the song among us here,
and join ours with the voices of many!**

**Conjure once again the breath in us,
and divine the song you began
in your children here.**

Amen.

Adapted from: Daryl Webber, Gathering Pentecost 2 2018, page 34.

WORD

Hymn: MV #40 Never Ending Joy
(verses 1 & 2) (please remain seated)

Community Learning Time

Hymn: MV #40 Never Ending Joy
(verse 3) (please remain seated)

Scripture: Joel 2:21-27 & Psalm 126

ONE: We read these texts so that in them we may find wisdom for life.
ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.

Reflection: The Root of Joy

Choral Offering: The Way We Love
- Joseph M. Martin

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Thank You to Our Ministers

Offering

Offertory Hymn: MV #182 Grateful *(sing refrain twice)*
(please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Dedication

**For these gifts, and for all your gracious gifts
we give thanks, Compassionate God.**

**Turn our offerings into action for good
in this church, this community
and all over the world.**

Amen.

Adapted from: David Sparks, Gathering Pentecost 2 2018, page 43.

Celebration of Communion

(chant: MV #195 – sing hymn as written, then chant refrain only)

Closing Hymn: VU #520 We Plough the Fields
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Closing: Celtic Blessing

*Traditional, transcribed by Pete Seeger,
Choral Arrangement by James McLaughlan*

Postlude

Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.
- Karl Barth

Lectionary Readings for Next Sunday

Job 23:1-9,16-17

Psalm 22:1-15 (VU pp.74-745 Part One)

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31



[Embracing the Spirit](#) is a learning network and innovation fund. It offers funding and support for innovation ideas hatched out of faith communities and communities in ministry. See below for one example of an initiative that we have funded.

If you have an idea that you want to launch, reach out and tell us about it! Proposal deadlines are quarterly, and due on the 15th of the month: January, April, July and October. Find out [more](#).

[Whitehorse United Church](#) was interested in thinking differently on how to be church in their community and having vital conversations. They recently received an Innovation Grant to move some of their experiments forward:

1. “Theatre Publico”: This is a screening to the public of current and topical films to be followed by a moderated discussion of key themes in these files. Snacks and drinks would be available from the commercial kitchen already available in Lewis Hall. No other venue of this type currently exists in Whitehorse.

2. Online Course Discussions: Massachusetts Institute of Technology and others offer on-line courses on a variety of vital topics. While such courses can be viewed on line at home, there are often opportunities for increasing the impact by following these courses and discussing them as a group.

3. United Church of Canada Webinars: Similar to the online course discussion, the [United Church webinars](#) that are intended for church members can also be watched by small groups and discussed.

This is the first stage of creating space to have these important conversations.