



July 14, 2024 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

❖ All **bolded** text is a congregational response.

Welcome and Announcements

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to Bethel United Church in Rideau Ferry Ontario. Today is July 14, 2024 and it's the eighth Sunday after Pentecost. My name is Liz Church and I am pleased to welcome all of you into this place of worship, whether you are worshipping with us virtually, or in person.

This week, our service is being led by: Ruth Anne Johnson and our choir, Aidan Williamson, Kathleen Williamson and Paul Coutts.

A quick reminder of our regularly scheduled Bethel activities: Chat and Chew on Tuesdays at 1:30 and our Zoom Prayer and Share at 10am on Thursdays. If you have any questions about our weekly activities, you can access a calendar on our website: www.bethelchurchrideauferry.ca. The calendar will appear on the first screen and has all of our activities listed.

Our Bethel 2024 Outdoor Service and Picnic will take place on Sunday, July 28th at the Rideau Ferry Yacht Club Conservation Area. (If it is a rainy day we will meet at Bethel but we have our fingers crossed that all will be well i.e. dry)

Please join us for this very special event!

The Outdoor Service will begin at 11am and the BBQ picnic (hamburgers and hot dogs etc.) will follow the service. A donation basket will be available if you would like to contribute to the cost of the picnic food.

We would suggest that people meet at Bethel at 10:30 a.m. and carpool to the Conservation Area. The RVCA are again generously providing us with parking passes at a discounted price of \$4 per car. The passes will be at Bethel the morning of the picnic.

We have reserved the picnic shelter at the Conservation Area where there are picnic tables but you may want to bring lawn chairs as well.

Looking forward to sharing this very special morning with all of you.

Any questions, please contact Karen at 613 264-9273 or murkarhunt@gmail.com

Land Acknowledgment (Unison)

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

Mission and Service Story

Climate Justice through Cultural Movement

Mission and Service partner the World Student Christian Federation Asia-Pacific collaborated with the Bangladesh Student Christian Movement on a workshop called "Youth Leading Change: Climate Justice through Cultural Movement."

Through discussions and activities, it aimed to raise awareness among young people about climate challenges and empower them to take local actions.

Over four days, 50 passionate students from various regions of Bangladesh came together to address the critical issue of climate change. They explored the severe impacts on communities and livelihoods, particularly the displacement caused by floods. Floods force families to migrate to Dhaka, now one of the world's most densely populated cities.

The heart-wrenching stories of displaced families deeply resonated with the participants, igniting their determination to drive change. Equipped with knowledge and tools, these young leaders are now poised to advocate for climate justice and inspire their communities.

Your generous support of Mission and Service helps make workshops like this possible. Thank you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

2 Samuel 22: 2-3, 32, 47, 50

One: *"The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my Saviour—*

All: **"For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except our God?"**

One: *"The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be my God, the Rock, my Saviour!"*

All: "Therefore I will praise you, LORD, among the nations; I will sing the praises of your name."

Sung Call to Worship

MV 14 (sing twice)

"Where Two or Three are Gathered"

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.**

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Lighting of the Christ Candle (Responsive)

One: We light this candle as a symbol of the Light of Christ.

All: As we light this candle, we invite the Lord of Light to walk with us.

One: We are invited to share the Light of Peace with the world.

All: We make this promise to share Christ with the World.

Opening Prayer (Unison)

We have gathered today, our dear Creator, to fellowship with each other and with You. As we sing praises to You, as we pray, as we share our gifts, may Your name be praised. This we do to bring honour and glory to You. Amen

Opening Hymn

MV 12

"Come Touch Our Hearts"

- ¹ Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.**
- ² Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.**
- ³ Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open door of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.**
- ⁴ Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;
that we may rise to follow and to serve,
steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.**

**5 Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,
to break the bread and share the cup of peace;
that we may love you with our heart, our soul, our mind,
our strength, our all, come touch us with your grace.**

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Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Reconciliation

Assurance of Love

Our Scriptures Today

Psalm 24 New Living Translation

Ephesians 1: 3-14 Living Bible

Reflection

Hymn

VU 578

"As a Fire is Meant for Burning"

- 1 As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbours everywhere.**
- 2 We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.**
- 3 As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
As a rainbow lights the w hen a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.**

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Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

Offering Response MV 182 (*Refrain, only*) “Grateful”

**Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.**

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Offering Prayer

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We also hold the following people in prayer today:

Leona	Hudson	Marc
Joy	Joanne	Kathie
Helene	Ivan	Wayne
Liam	Andy	John
Dennis	Sandy	Caroline & family
Cleo	Terry	Janis
Lennox	Kim	John
Maddie	Christopher	

God in Community, Holy in One, hear us as we lift our voices praying as Jesus has taught us, saying, **Our Father....**

Closing Hymn VU 424 “*May the God of Hope Go with Us*”

**¹ May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

***Refrain* Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

**² May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. *Refrain***

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Commissioning (Unison)

Know that as you leave this place of refuge today, you have the words of Scripture to encourage you. Hebrews 4: 16 , in the New Life Version, says this: Let us go with complete trust to the throne of God. We will receive loving-kindness and have His loving-favour to help us whenever we need it.

Benediction (Numbers 6: 24-26)

May the Lord bless and protect you; may the Lord's face radiate with joy because of you; may He be gracious to you, show you His favour, and give you His peace.'

Sung Benediction

**Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others, so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching us in love.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen**

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