

July 21, 2024
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to Bethel United Church in Rideau Ferry Ontario. Today is July 21, 2024 and it's the ninth 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 Liz Hughes.

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

Restoring Lost Languages

These days, most of us have access to technology that allows us to learn the world's common languages. But countless languages—including many Indigenous languages—can only be learned from their few remaining speakers.

Revitalizing a lost language, as one of our partners in Nunavut is doing, is an important way to preserve not just the language but also the culture that surrounds it.

The Inuinnaqtun language is the cultural foundation of the Inuinnaït people, who live in the central Canadian Arctic. The literal meaning of the word Inuinnaqtun is "to be like an Inuinnaq (a person)." Today, fewer than 600 people can still speak Inuinnaqtun fluently. Many lost the language when they were removed from their communities and sent to residential schools.

Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/Kitikmeot Heritage Society in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, is working hard to keep Inuinnaqtun alive. One-on-one language immersion sessions with mentors inspire reconnection. Through everyday conversations at home and on the land, mentorship is helping to heal the wounds of systemic oppression.

In partnership with Mission and Service, Inuinnaqtun language mentors get resources to allow them to spend 300 hours a year working with their apprentices to begin to restore the language.

Your gifts to Mission and Service help partners continue to restore language and culture. Thank you.

Call to Worship Psalm 100 (Responsive)

Leader: Shout with joy to the Lord! Worship the Lord with gladness.

All: Come before Him, singing with joy! Know that the Lord is God!

Leader: He made us, and we are His. We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

All: Enter His gates with thanksgiving; go into His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

Leader: For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and His faithfulness continues to each generation.

Sung Call to Worship

VU 958 (*sing twice*)

“Halle, Halle, Halle”

Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Halle, halle, halle-lujah!

Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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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*)

With grateful hearts we enter into this time of worship. Help us, Lord, to keep our thoughts centered on You. Be pleased with the offering of worship we give to You. May Your name be praised. Amen

Opening Hymn

VU 337

“Blessed Assurance”

**¹ Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.**

***Refrain* This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

**² Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain***

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. *Refrain***

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Passing of the Peace

Assurance of Love

We come into the Presence of God, aware of our human frailty and also God's love for us. Don't forget, there is no human experience we can walk through where God is not always there, high on the mountain of faith or in the darkest valleys of your life. God asks only that we trust in His unfailing love, and allow Him today to speak more deeply to you.

Illumination Hymn VU 501 *"Break Now the Bread of Life"*

**1 Break now the bread of life, Saviour, to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;
my spirit waits for you, O Living Word.**

**2 Bless your own truth, dear Christ, to me, to me,
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee;
then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall,
and I shall find my peace, my all-in-all.**

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Our Scriptures Today

Psalm 23

John 10: 1-14

Prayer For Illumination VU 502 (*Unison*)

**Eternal God, open our minds to hear Your Word, our hearts to love
Your Word, and our lives to be obedient to Your Word, through the
power of Your Spirit and the name of Jesus Christ. Amen**

Reflection

Hymn VU 747 *"The Lord's My Shepherd"*

**1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me, the quiet waters by.**

- 2 My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, even for his own name's sake.**
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.**
- 4 My table thou has furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.**
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me, and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.**

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Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

Offering Response VU 542 "We Give You But Your Own"
**We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;
 all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

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Offering Prayer

Dear Creator, today we have brought a portion of Your generosity to give back to You. Help us to use these gifts to share Your love with others. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We also hold the following people in prayer today:

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

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 481

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

- 1** Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.
- 2** With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

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Commissioning

As you leave this place of worship, know that you are loved. You are being sent out as God's Messengers to show God's Light and Love to the world. You are empowered by Holy Spirit to bring the Good News to others.

Benediction **Jude verse 24,25**

Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into His glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to Him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are His before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen

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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