



Westminster United Church
Worship Service for July 14th, 2019
Today's Worship Leader is Rev. Helen Reid
Pentecost 5

"We are a faith community building relationships with God, all people, and our world."

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Come and give thanks and praise to God!

All: We come to worship our God with gratitude in our hearts.

One: As God provides food for the birds and clothes the lilies of the fields with splendor, so, too, does the Lord provide us with everything we need.

All: We have sought out God's Kingdom and righteousness, and God has given to us all that we ask and more. Praise we raise to you, O Giving One, with thanksgiving for all that you have done! Alleluia!

(Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Cheryl Huchcroft, Oakridge U.C., Vancouver B.C)

†PROCESSION OF CHRIST CANDLE: **"Lord Prepare Me" (MV 18 2X)**

OPENING PRAYER:

All: Above us, the summer sun burns with unquenchable fire, O God. We thank you for all the beauty and abundance around us that reminds us of the unquenchable fire of your love for all Creation. Come like the heat of summer, Living God, to warm our hearts and bring forth the fruit of faithfulness. Come like the sun, Merciful God, with fire to cleanse and heal the stains and pains of our souls. When we shield our eyes from your goodness and freeze out those who need your warmth and ours, challenge us. May the light of your presence bring growth and possibility. Inspire us to bear fruit in this season of summer sun, so that we may be people of your son. Amen.

(Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont)

SHARING THE PEACE

†OPENING HYMN: **"A Little Child the Saviour Came" (VU 445)**

Sacrament of Infant Baptism (*Please wait till after the service to take pictures.*)

One: Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us celebrate the gift of grace given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism.

All: **There is one body, and one Spirit: we have one hope in Christ.**

One: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God creator of us all

All: **Out of the water of baptism we rise with new life, forgiven, renewed, and one with Christ, members of Christ's body.** (Based on Eph.4: 4-6)

Presentation: On behalf of the board of Westminster United Church, I present Drew Alan Maier for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism

Promises of the Parents

Dean and Aletta, Do you desire to have your child baptized?

...I do, by the grace of God.

Do you believe in God and in His love?

...Yes I do

Do you believe that God has made himself known to us in Jesus of Nazareth, who lived and died and lives again?

.... Yes I do

Do you believe that God by Her Spirit is active in the world to direct and strengthen you?

...Yes I do.

Will you accept the responsibility of acting and speaking on your child's behalf?

...I will God being my helper.

Will you endeavour to show your child the Christian life and to grow with your child in faith in making deeper commitments to our Lord?

...I will, God being my helper.

✠**Promises of the congregation.** (*Please stand*) {*Taken on behalf of the Pincher Creek United Church congregation*}

Do you receive this child with love and concern?

...**Yes, we do**

As a baptized and baptizing church do you commit yourselves to support and nurture baptized children within a community which worships God, resists evil and seeks justice?

.... **We do, God being our helper**

Do you promise to assist in the Christian education of the children who seek the spiritual guidance and nurture of this church by providing the learning, resources, leadership and opportunities that will be required?

.... **Yes, we do so promise, God being our helper.** (*Please be seated*)

Prayer

Gracious and Holy God, we bless you for the gift of life, and within it, the gift of water. Over its unshaped promise your Spirit hovered at creation. By water comes the growth of the earth. Through water you led the children of Israel to freedom. In the waters of the Jordan your Child Jesus was baptized.

Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do, that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

The water is poured

What is the name of this child?

The baptism:

Drew Alan, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

People: **Amen**

Laying on of hands (*indicating the receiving of the Holy Spirit and all the Spirit's blessings*) Drew Alan the power of the Holy Spirit work within you that being born of water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful witness of Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen**

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I declare that Drew Alan Maier has been received into the holy catholic church.

The Aaronic Blessing

People **Amen**

Prayer of the People

All: Remind us always of your promises given us in our baptism, and our commitment to love you with heart and mind and soul and strength, and to love our neighbours as ourselves. Amen.

One: Once we were no people

All: Now we are God's people Thanks be to God.

One: Let us give this child our greeting:

All: We receive you joyfully into the family of God. We pledge to grow with you in the knowledge and love of God, Grace and peace to you in fullest measure.

A certificate and candle, reminder of the light of Christ, are presented.

In the service 'his' and 'her' are used in reference to God to remind us that the God we worship is personal, contains all of the characteristics of masculine and feminine, and is beyond gender. The word catholic refers to the universal church of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

One: Merciful God, we sometimes try to assure ourselves that our sins are no greater than those of others, and pretend that they are of less consequence than the words and actions of other people.

But, as long as there is estrangement from you and one another in the world, no one may claim their own righteousness.

We humbly ask to be restored to right relationships with you and with one another.

(a time of silent prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

One: Here is the good News:

The free gift of God is the grace of God.
We are set free to live and love, through Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

(adapted from Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Wanda Winfield, Blenheim U.C., Blenheim, Ont.)

INVITATION TO PRAYER: **"Come to My Heart" (VU 661 v 3)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

"The Lord's Prayer" (Sung)(VU 959)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

One: Loving God, your grace has accompanied your people down through the ages. From generation to generation, you have been the God who has both called and equipped us for service. Help us this day to listen to your call and help us every day to respond in ways we can. Amen.

(Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Beth W Johnston, Hantsport P.C., Hantsport, N.S.)

SCRIPTURE READING:

Amos 7:7-17

One: This is the witness of the Hebrew scriptures

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:25-37

One: This is the good news of Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON: **"Asking the Right Question"**

†HYMN: **" O Jesus I Have Promised"(VU 120)**

LIFE AND WORK:

OFFERTORY:

†DOXOLOGY: **"As Those of Old" (VU 518 vs 3)**

†DEDICATION:

All: God of the journey, you are our constant companion. In times of great delight, you are there. In periods of despair, you are there. May these offerings be sustenance and hope for all. Empower us to herald your way of love, repentance, and new life. Amen.

(Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Laura Turnbull, Penticton B.C. U.C., Penticton, B.C.)

†A NEW CREED: **(VU 918)**

†CLOSING HYMN: **"God of Grace and God of Glory (VU 686) (tune Cwm Rhonda)**

†COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION:

One: Go into the world inspired by the Spirit.

All: We go to breathe the hope of faith into a world of despair.

One: Go into the world transformed by Jesus.

All: We go to walk the difficult path of discipleship.

One: Go into the world blessed by God's grace.

All: We go to become a blessing for others in relationship.

One: Go with God's blessing. Amen.

(Gathering, Pentecost 1 2019(Year C) Prayers for Worship, Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont.)

†CHORAL AMEN **(VU 967)**

†SENDING FORTH: **"You Shall Go Out With Joy" (VU 884 2X)**

Postlude

Announcements

Help us keep the air we share healthy and fragrance-free. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with asthma, allergies and other medical conditions. Please do not wear perfume, cologne, aftershave and other fragrances.

The Peace Candle is lit as a reminder to Christians to pray for and work for world peace.

At the request of Dean and Aletta Maier, and on behalf of the Pincher Creek United Church congregation we welcome their son, Drew Alan through the sacrament of Baptism into the Christian church.

A warm welcome to all our friends from 5th Avenue Memorial United Church worshipping here today. We hope you will be here with us often in July and we look forward to joining you for worship at 5th Avenue in August.

St. Barnabas Church would like to invite you all to join them on Wednesdays at 12:30 at for Communion. Together we come to the Lord's table to share His body, His blood, His life and His love.

Update from the Joint Search Committee:

The Joint Search Committee received a good number of applications from qualified candidates.

We short-listed them, and then conducted initial interviews via Skype on June 17 and 20.

Each candidate was impressive.

Our next objective is to reconvene the Joint Search Committee in early July to review our interview notes for each candidate, and then decide our next steps. This may require secondary interviews with select candidates.

***Cam Lockerbie
Chair***

It is now time to consider signing up to be on PAR (Pre authorized remittance) the holiday season is coming up and we don't attend on a regular basis, but the expenses of the church don't stop so we need your funds all year around. The donation you select comes out of your bank account on the 20th of the month and is put in Westminster's bank account the same day. It is so easy that you will wonder why you didn't do this sooner. The forms are in all the pews. Just fill that in & give us a voided cheque. For more information, contact Donna Scharf at 403-526-1555 or rdscharf@shaw.ca

Donations at Coffee Time for during July are allocated to the Champion Centre

Please join us in Memorial Hall for refreshments and fellowship!

Assisting with the Service This Morning

<i>Elder-in-Charge:</i>	Marg McCulley
<i>Greeters:</i>	Betty & John Sidlick
<i>Scripture Reader:</i>	Marg McCulley
<i>Minutes for Mission:</i>	Sandra McDonald
<i>Coffee Hosts:</i>	Mike & Joan Jantze
<i>Sound :</i>	Pat Evans
<i>PowerPoint Operator:</i>	Kathy Nielsen
<i>Wheelchair Lift Operator:</i>	Pat Evans

