

WE GATHER
"A LEADER OF GOD'S CHOOSING".
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST,
JUNE 13TH 2021

Introduction

Territorial Acknowledgment

Introit: "Spirit of the Living God" VU#376

WE ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(Rev. Roni)*

We are in the season of Pentecost.

The spirit comes as wind and fire.

With the lighting of this Christ candle,
we still our minds and open our hearts,
seeking the spirit.

Come and visit us Holy Spirit.

Call to Worship:

God we enter into your presence,
and admittedly, our hearts can be fickle.

Sometimes, we can be driven by our own desires and motives.
At other times, we want to serve you with all of our heart and
mind and soul and strength.

Creator God, it can be difficult to tell the difference between
what we want and what you desire.

Holy Spirit help us, speak to our hearts, we pray...

Opening Prayer:

Loving God,

you live in us through the Spirit.

We feel the holy breeze on our hearts,
as surely as the trees feel the gentle wind
on their leaves.

Thank you for always being with us,
for giving us the courage and strength
to let the Spirit into our lives,
to let it fill our spiritual sails and carry us forward,
so that we may be winds of change
in a becalmed world, through your love,

O God, this is possible. In Jesus's name we pray, **Amen**

*Written by: Dianne Young, St. Martin's U.C., Saskatoon, Sask, The Gathering 2021,
Pentecost*

Opening Hymn: "I am A Child of God" MV#157

Prayer of Confession:

Holy and gracious God,
gathered as your people responding to your call,
we confess

the self that is not aware of sinning;
the heart that is too hardened to repent;
the pride that dares not admit it is wrong;
the righteousness that knows no fault,
the callousness that has ceased to care;
the blindness that can see nothing but its own will.

God, in your healing love, forgive us,
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Voices United #928

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Preparation: *(Rev. Roni)*

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Open our hearts and minds and lives to your call
through this holy word. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading: Mark 4: 26-34

He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

The Use of Parables

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able

to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ!

ALL: Glory to you, O Christ.

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Samuel Anoints David

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’ Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’ And the Lord said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.” Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’ Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’ He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.’ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen any of these.’ Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’ He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.

The Lord said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

One: Your word comes to us through the voice of the prophet.

ALL: Come and visit us afresh with your words of life.

Piano Solo:

Sermon: "A Leader of God’s Own Choosing". (Rev. Roni)

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Announcements: (Rev. Roni)

Invitation to the Offering:

Offertory Blessing:

**May the gifts we bring before you this day
bear the fruit of your kingdom,
where all may be fed,
and all may be blessed. Amen.**

Adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021, Third Sunday after Pentecost, by B.J. Beu and Mary Scifres.

Prayers of the People

SENT TO SHOW CHRIST’S LOVE

Hymn: “Spirit God, Be Our Breath” MV#150

Commissioning and Benediction: (Rev. Roni)

Our service of worship has ended.

Our service to community continues!

Go forth with the Spirit’s Power!

Your sincere ‘deep yes’ is enough for God!

Go now in peace:

**Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day.
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 from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

Postlude: "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me" VU#635



*Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring,
welcoming faith community, nurturing
spiritual life and sharing God's love
and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.*

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Please note that Rev. Roni is off Monday & Tuesday.



Credit: P. Rogers

We now stand at a crucial time in the life of the church, and the history of Canada, when we can see the journey through. For more than thirty years, the United Church and Indigenous peoples have been on a journey towards mutuality, respect and equity. Towards reconciliation. Towards justice.