



*The United Church of Canada*  
Prairie Spirit Pastoral Charge  
Coaldale United and St. Andrew's UC  
Trinity and First United

**Worship leader: Kathy Carlson**

Reader: Laverne Bryant

Music: Cheryl Nelson

November 16, 2025

**Pentecost 23**

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**Welcome & Announcements**

**Land Acknowledgement**

We gather on Treaty 7 land, the traditional territories of the Blackfoot people. We extend our gratitude for their enduring presence and care of the land, that sustained all our ancestors and sustains all of us now. We move together with All Our Relations in a Spirit of reconciliation.

**Call to Worship**

To wake from sleep into this day  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To hear a child's delight in laughter  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To sip a glass of clean, cold water  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To watch the sunset paint the sky  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To share a moment with a friend  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To smell the fragrance of moist soil  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To feel the comfort of clean clothing  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**  
To form the words that make a prayer  
    **is gift enough for thanks.**

**Opening Prayer**

**We Light Our Christ Candle**

**Minute for Mission**

From Sleepless Nights to Shared Strength

Helping children and communities grow.

Becoming a new parent can be overwhelming, with the constant demands of caring for a newborn, sleepless nights, and the pressure to make the right choices for your child. The exhaustion of balancing daily responsibilities while navigating the unknowns of parenthood often leaves new parents feeling unsure and isolated. It's a time filled with great joy, but also uncertainty, as parents adjust to their new roles and work to create a safe and nurturing environment for their little one.

At Fairview Resource Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the New Parents Support group aims to walk with parents as they navigate the complexities of raising a newborn. Once a week, parents gather to meet with a public health nurse who provides education and answers questions. From expectant parents to those with babies up to 18 months, the program provides resources for those who might not otherwise have access to in-person support or resources.

Parents connect not only with health professionals, but form deep bonds with each other, and some are still in contact many years later. Many of us have heard that "it takes a village to raise a child," and Fairview Resource Centre is truly taking action to give a positive space for children in the community to flourish. Thank you for walking alongside our Mission and Service partners as they help children and communities grow.

Your support of Mission and Service is vital to the continuation of incredible programs like these.

**Mission Prayer: from Song of Faith**

God is creative and self-giving, generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe. Nothing exists that does not find its source in God. Our first response to God's providence is gratitude. We sing thanksgiving.  
Amen

**Prayers of Reconciliation and Words of Freedom from Song of Faith**

Made in the image of God.....

....God transforms,  
and calls us to protect the vulnerable,  
to pray for deliverance from evil,  
to work with God for the healing of the world,  
that all might have abundant life.

We sing of grace. **Amen**

**Hymn: VU 567**

**Will You Come and Follow Me**

**Youth Conversation:**

**Scripture:**

*Today's gospel reading refers to the warns that following the path of Jesus will set one on a way that may mean persecution and struggle. On its own this message can make it easy to see ourselves as potential victims, seeing others as threats. But we are reminded that the path of Jesus is one that struggles toward the Beautiful, Peaceable Kingdom and that we must consider how we live and work in the world.*

Isaiah 65:17-25

New heavens and a new earth

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime, for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat, for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD-- and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent--its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Luke 21:5-19

Suffering for Jesus' sake

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said,

"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"

And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."

Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;

there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.

This will give you an opportunity to testify.

So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance;

for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.

You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.

You will be hated by all because of my name.

But not a hair of your head will perish.

By your endurance you will gain your souls

**Message:**

**Hymn: VU 713**

**I See A New Heaven**

**Offertory: Take My Gifts (vs 2)**

Take the fruit that I have gathered  
from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of your own compassion,  
juice that makes the wine of God;  
spiced with humour, laced with laughter--  
flavour of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure,  
taste and zest beyond belief.

### **Offertory Prayer:**

#### **Prayer of Our Hearts and the Prayer of Jesus**

Read Prayers of Petition from Book (First) **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

The World Council of Churches Global Ecumenical Prayer Cycle focusses this week on the petitions of the people of Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia. We are grateful for the leadership and love these siblings in Christ have offered us and raise their voices with our own. To honour that, our Prayers of the people today has been written by Glenn Jetta Barclay of Aotearoa/New Zealand.

#### **Prayer for the Side-lined, Lost and Over-looked People.**

Holy One, may your Realm of Love come for  
the insignificant, unremarkable, over-looked people of the world;  
for the un-noticed and simply ordinary people;  
back-water sort of people who will never make much impact.  
For them **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

Holy One, may your Realm of Love come for  
those who are lost; who have disappeared or are missing;  
for the up-rooted, exiled and enslaved ;  
lost-rights sort of people who will seldom be seen or heard.  
For them **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

Holy One, may your Realm of Love come for  
the fearful, the terrorised and the abused people of the world;  
those who are unjustly imprisoned or entrapped;  
voiceless people who will hardly dare to seek help.  
For them **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

Holy One, may your Realm of Love come for  
the subjugated, silenced and subdued people of the world;  
for the lonely, the lacking, the faded, the frightened;  
shadowy people unable to bring attention to their suffering.  
For them **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

Holy One, may Your Realm of Love come for  
all persons with disabilities;  
for the redundant and poorly educated; the timid and un-appreciated;  
struggling people who have to strive for support and respect.  
For them, **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

In the dynamic of your Love, may your Realm become a reality for them all.  
**Amen.**

For the prayers we have not spoken aloud. For the secret prayers within our minds and hearts, for the prayers we do not even have words for **MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

*Prayer of Jesus*

*Hymn: VU 424*

*May the God of Hope Go With Us*

*Commissioning and Benediction:*

*Sung Blessing MV 213*

Take up his song of peace  
and go into the world.  
Take up his song of peace  
in ev'ry moment.  
In ev'ry moment of the journey,  
we're laying down our lives;  
lay them down, in peace,  
lay them down, and take up his song.