



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: Barb Goertzen

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

Musical Prelude:

Announcements:

Land Acknowledgement:

Call to Worship:

We have come to celebrate the birthday of the church.

We have come to celebrate Pentecost
and to open ourselves to God's Spirit, that it might fill us.

**O God, help us to direct our thoughts to you,
that your power might fill this church and our lives,
as it filled your people throughout the ages.**

Teach us to be your church and your people. Amen

Opening Prayer:

We Light our Christ Candles:

Hymn: MV 23

Come O Holy Spirit

Children's Time:

Prayer of Reconciliation/Prayer of Confession:

Words of Freedom/Words of Assurance:

Hymn: MV 79

Spirit, Open My Heart

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 104: 24-34 The Message Translation

What a wildly wonderful world, God!
You made it all, with Wisdom at your side,
made earth overflow with your wonderful creations.
Oh, look—the deep, wide sea,
brimming with fish past counting,
sardines and sharks and salmon.
Ships plow those waters,
and Leviathan, your pet dragon, romps in them.
All the creatures look expectantly to you
to give them their meals on time.
You come, and they gather around;
you open your hand and they eat from it.
If you turned your back,
they'd die in a minute—
Take back your Spirit and they die,
revert to original mud;
Send out your Spirit and they spring to life—
the whole countryside in bloom and blossom.

The glory of God—let it last forever!
Let God enjoy his creation!
He takes one look at earth and triggers an earthquake,
points a finger at the mountains, and volcanoes erupt.

Oh, let me sing to God all my life long,
sing hymns to my God as long as I live!
Oh, let my song please him;
I'm so pleased to be singing to God.

1 Corinthians 12: 4-13 The Message Translation

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful:

wise counsel
clear understanding
simple trust

healing the sick
miraculous acts
proclamation
distinguishing between spirits
tongues
interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. He decides who gets what, and when.

You can easily enough see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you’re still one body. It’s exactly the same with Christ. By means of his one Spirit, we all said good-bye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which *he* has the final say in everything. (This is what we proclaimed in word and action when we were baptized.) Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used to identify ourselves—labels like Jew or Greek, slave or free—are no longer useful.

Message:

Hymn: VU 380

She Comes Sailing on the Wind

Minute for Mission: The Work of Compassion

Across Northern Canada, Indigenous ministers are serving communities where grief is a constant presence. They walk with families through loss, often leading funerals for young people, holding space for pain that has no easy words. It is sacred work, but it is also heavy work. And too often, it is carried alone.

In many of these communities, distance and isolation make support hard to find. Ministers are expected to be present for others in moments of deep crisis, while having few places for themselves to turn for rest, understanding, or care.

For the past two years, through Mission and Service, something small but powerful has taken place. Northern Indigenous ministers have gathered for a retreat. The retreat is a space for Northern Indigenous ministers to step back from having to lead and give, and step into receiving care and connection.

In Fall 2025, 16 ministers came together with facilitators for five days of rest and renewal. They shared meals and stories, sewed and beaded, and participated in ceremony. These moments provide space to breathe, grieve, and to be among others who deeply understand the weight of this work.

One minister reflected on how meaningful it can be to simply sit in a room with others who know that reality. What it means to not carry everything alone.

That is what the Northern Indigenous Ministers Retreat offers. Not a simple resolution, but something just as important: space. Space where burdens can be shared, even for a little while. Space where healing can begin.

Scripture reminds us to “bear one another’s burdens.” At this retreat, that call becomes real, through presence, community, and care.

This year, a third retreat is being planned at Fisher River Cree Nation, and retreat facilitators hope to welcome even more ministers into healing. The need continues, as does the opportunity to respond.

Through Mission and Service, our gifts help make this possible. They help cover travel, support facilitators, and create space for rest and healing.

When we give, we remind Northern Indigenous ministers that they are not alone. Make your gift to Mission and Service through The United Church of Canada Foundation today.

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

Invitation to Offering:

Offertory: VU 603, vs 1

**In loving partnership we come,
seeking, O God, your will to do.
Our prayers and actions now receive;
we freely offer them to you.**

Offering Prayer:

Prayers of Our Hearts and the Prayer of Jesus:

Hymn: MV 3

River

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Blessing: MV 156 Dance with the Spirit

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.