



The United Church of Canada
Prairie Spirit Pastoral Charge
Coaldale United and St. Andrew's UC
Trinity and First United
Worship leader Kathy Carlson

October 5, 2025

17th after Pentecost Creation 5

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

Opening Prayer

We Light Our Christ Candle

Hymn # 395 VU

Come In, Come In and Sit Down

Minute for Mission

United Church ministers serving in northern communities will soon gather at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in Manitoba for a time of healing and renewal.

The Northern Indigenous Ministers retreat comes at a critical moment. These ministers carry extraordinary burdens: walking alongside communities devastated by loss, often among young people; leading funeral after funeral; and tending to the deep wounds of grief. This year's wildfires brought further hardship, forcing the retreat to be postponed until October. The need for rest and renewal has only grown.

Because of your incredible generosity through Mission and Service, the retreat will soon take place. Plans are in place for sharing circles where ministers can express what they've been carrying, gather for meals that nourish body and spirit, and engage in cultural practices like ribbon skirt making and beading that bring connection and joy. Massages and other healing activities will help restore strength and release long-held tension. Most importantly, ministers will

be surrounded by peers, who understand the unique weight they bear and who can hold that burden alongside them.

The outpouring of support from across the church has been remarkable. Your generosity is creating a space where ministers, who are so often the ones offering care, can finally receive it themselves.

Our ministers will soon step away from the constant demands of ministry and into a circle of care, healing, and renewal. And when they return to their communities, they will carry back not only renewed strength but also the reminder that they are not alone.

Your compassion through [Mission and Service](#) makes this gathering possible. Thank you.

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

Prayer of Reconciliation and Words of Freedom

Hymn # 703 VU

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Scripture

Lamentations 1:1-6

Jerusalem empty and destroyed

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become subject to forced labor.

She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers, she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations; she finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate; her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters; her enemies prosper because the LORD has

made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

Psalm 137

Weeping by the rivers of Babylon

By the rivers of Babylon-- there we sat down, and there we wept when we remembered Zion.

On the willows there we hung up our harps.

For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!

Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites the day of Jerusalem's fall, how they said, "Tear it down! Tear it down! Down to its foundations!"

O daughter Babylon, you devastator! Happy shall they be who pay you back what you have done to us!

Happy shall they be who take your little ones and dash them against the rock!

Luke 17:5-10

Faith the size of a mustard seed

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?

Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'?"

Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?

So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Message: Where is God in Our Pain and Anger?

Hymn # 278 VU

In the Quiet Curve of Evening

Offertory

Take Me God vs 1

(Ron Klusmeier and Shirley Erena Murray)

Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter,
Gave me life and set me free.
Now, because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
Now the bread of love is rising,
Loaves of love to multiply!

Offering Prayer

Prayer of Our Hearts and the Prayer of Jesus

Hymn # 209 MV

Go Make A Difference

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Blessing VU 884

You Shall Go Out With Joy

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills
will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy,
and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,
(clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands,
(clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands
(clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.