

South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges

Rural Life Sunday – May 29th, 2022

Prelude: “Mendelssohn Hunter’s Song” – Christie Coatsworth

Welcome & Announcements:

Welcome to St. Luke’s today as we celebrate Rural Life Sunday.

St. Andrew’s 164th Anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday June 12th at 11 am. The Anniversary Supper of Broasted Chicken and Strawberries - Take Out will be Friday June 17th. Tickets are \$25 each. Call Alice 519-689-4408

Thank you for your support of all our past services, which are posted on our websites – Southbuxton.ca and Talbotstreet.ca

Thank you to our production crew; music by Christie Coatsworth, readings by Annette Skillings and the slides by Tracey Major. You make all the difference. Thank you!

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Call to Worship:

Eric: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God’s love for all the earth.

People: **In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God’s grace for all creation.**

Eric: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God’s people.

People: **In the tablets of stone, we see the sign of God’s hope for each to live in peace with God and neighbour.**

Eric: In the days of the prophet, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

People: **As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the sign of God’s promise among us.**

Eric: Let us worship, knowing we are not alone.

Opening Hymn: VU 227 “For the Fruit of All Creation”

- Pacific Spirit United Church, Vancouver BC

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,

in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Opening Prayer:

People: God of storms and rainbows, God of rain and sunshine, God of all creation we worship and adore you. We gaze in wonder at the beauty of your creation and marvel at stormy skies transformed with the vibrant colours of a rainbow. Like Noah and his family, we praise you for this everlasting sign of your love and care for the whole creation in your desire to preserve and not destroy life. For all these assurances of your love for us and for the whole creation, we praise and worship you, O God, in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Children's Hymn: VU 296 "This is God's Wondrous World" – Wesley Methodist, Bermuda

- 1 This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
 all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
 of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.
- 2 This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
 the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
 in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.
- 3 This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
 that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
 Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Scripture: Matthew 13: 1 – 9 - “A Harvest Story” by Tracey Major

At about that same time Jesus left the house and sat on the beach. In no time at all a crowd gathered along the shoreline, forcing him to get into a boat. Using the boat as a pulpit, he addressed his congregation, telling stories.

“What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; it sprouted quickly but didn’t put down roots, so when the sun came up it withered just as quickly. Some fell in the weeds; as it came up, it was strangled by the weeds. Some fell on good earth, and produced a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.

“Are you listening to this? Really listening?”

“These are the words of scripture that been offered to us today. May God add blessings and understanding to these words, that they become food for our lives, as we share in our covenant with God, and with each other. Thanks be to God!”

Reflection: Video “Faith and Farming”

Reflection Hymn: VU 236 “Now Thank We All Our God”

– Peninsula United Church, Surrey BC

- 1 Now thank we all our God, with heart,
 and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
 in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
 with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

- 2 O may this bounteous God
 through all our life be near us,
 with ever joyful hearts
 and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

- 3 All praise and thanks to God
 for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest
 who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Invitation to Share Our Gifts:

Eric: We receive new life in Christ. We share our Good News with others, by speaking, by caring and by giving. Let us give to share the Good News.

Offertory: VU 541 “Praise God From Whom...”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer:

People: God of great gifts; it is by your generosity we have received all that we have and all that we are. Grant that we may so use these things which you have entrusted to our care, that we may become more and more your children in Spirit and in Truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Hymn Verse: VU 376 “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer:

Eric: Gracious God, your amazing love extends through all time and space, to all parts of your creation, which you created and called good.

People: You made a covenant with Noah and his family, putting a rainbow in the sky to symbolize your promise of love and blessing to every living creature, and to all successive generations.

Eric: You made a covenant with Abraham and Sarah, blessing them and their descendants throughout the generations.

People: You made a covenant with Moses and the Israelite people to all generations, giving them the ten commandments and challenging them to choose life.

Eric: We thank you for the blessings we have received. O Lord hear our prayers... (moment of silence).

People: We pray for those who are on journeys of treatment, healing and curing, and those who are on our hearts today. O Lord hear our prayer... (Moment of silence)

Eric: In Jesus, you invite us to enter into a new covenant, in communion with all who seek to be faithful to you. As people of faith, we are called into covenant. Your covenant of faithfulness and love extends to the whole creation.

People: We pray for the healing of the earth, that present and future generations may enjoy the fruits of creation, and continue to glorify and praise you.

Eric: We pray for ourselves and the relationship we share with you.

People: We as the church pray for the relationships we share with each other and with those in the wider community.

Eric: Continue to strengthen us to be your hands and feet in our world today,

People: and help us as farmers and our whole farming community to co-create with you enough to feed the whole world.

Eric: We offer prayers for our Community... .. as we say together the Lord’s Prayer...

*Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven,*

*Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.*

Closing Hymn: VU 481 “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”
- Polk Street United Methodist Church, Amarillo Texas

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.
- 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Blessing:

Eric: Go in peace and be witnesses to hope, for all the world, now and forever more.

Forth in Your Name, O Christ: VU 416

Forth in your name, O Christ, we go,
our daily labour to pursue,
you, only you, resolved to know
in all we think, or speak, or do.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Postlude: “Crieg – March of the Dwarfs” – Christie Coatsworth

Prayers: - Please include these people in your prayers this week.

We have offered prayer for these people each Sunday morning just before the Zoom Service.
It was suggested to share these names with the total group – as “In the Spirit We Are One”.

Cancer:	Tom	
	Louise	Louise' Granddaughter - Blake
	Betty	Ingrid
	Alison	Brenda

Nancy
Sarah
Brian
Zoe
Francine
Melissa
Jenny
Gary
Gus (Sick kids)
Chris
Glenna
Ann
Jim
Lori

Lisa
Larry
Jack
Becky

Karen
Michelle
Margaret
Dolly
Ukraine – Allied and Canadian Forces
Barry
Joe
Tracey
Margaret