

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
August 30th, 2026

Praise Medley: Gather Us In, Wings of an Eagle

Greeting

Announcements

Introit: Come Build a Church

Gathering:

God calls to us from the midst of our everyday lives, inviting us to pause, to listen, and to stand on holy ground.

We come, ready to turn aside and meet the Living God.

Christ shows us the way of love that is bold, generous, and costly.

We come, seeking courage to follow and faith to serve.

The Spirit gathers us as a community of compassion and justice.

We come to worship God, who sends us into the world with hope.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

Open our hearts to your presence and our lives to your purpose. Give us courage to follow Christ's way of love - a way that asks honesty, compassion, and sacrifice. Shape us into people who seek justice, offer mercy, and live with hope. As we gather in worship, kindle in us the flame of your Spirit, that we may be strengthened to serve and inspired to follow wherever you lead. Amen.

Hymn: Across The Lands, You're the Word of God

Minute for Mission

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Forgive us, God, when we fail to honour you first, when we corrupt your gifts to us by abusing them and in turn abusing the very people and principles we claim to be protecting. Open our eyes yet again to the truth that all gifts come from you and are to be used for the building of your kingdom. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

Hear the good news: God's love is steadfast and enduring. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed, and empowered to begin again

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism

Hymn: A Little Child the Saviour Came **VU 445**

Offertory Hymn: A Gift from Your Children

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

As we offer these gifts, O God, we thank you that you do not judge us by the perfection of our actions but by our readiness to live boldly in faith. Bless these gifts and the work of this congregation. May we continue to follow where you lead, in Christ's name.

Prayer of Illumination:

As we listen to your Word today, turn our attention toward what is holy. Clear away the noise that distracts us, and open us to the wisdom you offer. By your Spirit, guide our understanding, strengthen our courage, and shape our lives in the way of Christ.

Scripture Readings: Exodus 3:1–15

Psalm 105 (**VU pp. 828-829 Parts One and Three**)

Matthew 16:21–28

Hymn: There Is Joy in the Lord

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Maranatha

Closing Hymn: Wide as the Ocean

Blessing