

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
October 25th, 2026
'Anniversary Sunday'

Praise Medley: For I'm Building a People of Power
Will the Circle Be Unbroken

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: He Is Lord

Call to Worship:

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all the generations.

You, O Lord, have been a dwelling place for us and our children.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You, O Lord, have been with your church from the beginning!

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

You, O Lord, have been our refuge and our strength!

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

You, O Lord, are the eternal One and we have trusted you.

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for God's compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

You, O Lord, have been our faithful One!

Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

You, O Lord, have brought this congregation together and we have been blessed.

Hymn: Let Us Build a House

Anniversary Prayer:

O God, in the open air of honesty and in the warm currents of your love, we bring to you our prayers for First United Church. From our roots as First United and Trinity United, we celebrate the breath of your presence in our lives and in our congregation, although sometimes we feel it pushing against the walls of our structures that are

often too rigid to allow the expansion of the love that Jesus modelled. Forgive us for limiting the power of your good news for our world.

O giver of the breath of life, fill us again with the fresh air of confidence and trust in you. Burst open the windows of our minds, our imaginations, and our faith. Keep us from breathing in the stale air of hopelessness and fear! May the tornado funnel of your righteousness lift away all that is no longer faithful to your vision and set us down on the way to your community of compassion.

O God of gentle breeze, calm the turbulence of conflict within our church. Help us to use our disagreements to grow in knowledge of ourselves and others, and to understand that real differences of opinion often stem from sincere attempts to be faithful in new contexts. Open our minds and hearts to learn from one another, and to recognize you as Lord of life and lover of everyone. Fill us with your justice and your truth.

God of sudden gusts and surprises, help us to do new things in your name. Lead us to find the means to tell the "old, old story of Jesus and his love" in ways that stimulate and renew the people of our day. Grant us the will and the wisdom to work in prayer and partnership with you, so that our church may hear your call to its particular mission and respond with joy and effectiveness. Amen.

A Time for All Ages

Hymn: In the Bulb There Is a Flower **VU 703**

Offering: All That We Have

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

God, on this Anniversary Sunday we celebrate the history of your church and its people. May we learn from the past, open our lives to your call, and share Christ's love into the future, which you unfold before us. Amen.

Scripture Readings: James 2:14-17, 24-26
Matthew 25:34-40

Hymn: How Firm a Foundation **VU 660**

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Love Us Into Fullness

Hymn: You Are Salt for the Earth

Blessing and Benediction