

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge**  
**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Led by Rev. Karen Burse**

**Praise Medley:** Open the Eyes of My Heart, Softly and Tenderly

**Greeting and Announcements**

**Introit:** Jesus, Name Above All Names

**Call to Worship:**

Sing aloud with gladness:

**God is gathering the people!**

From the farthest parts of the earth we come:

**All who struggle; all who labor with new life!**

Those who are weeping, God will console;

**Those who get lost find a clear path home.**

Let us worship the God who gathers us!

**Prayer of Approach:** (unison)

**Ever-calling God, we give thanks that you have gathered us into your church and graced us with your faithful presence. We ponder our history, ancient and still developing, and marvel at the many expressions of your church. Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the Church that will bring ever more joy and justice to the world. Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us, into Jesus' vision and dream that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Open My Eyes, That I May See VU 371

**A Time for All People**

**Call to Reconciliation**

**Prayer of Confession:** (unison)

**We hear people crying out for justice, God of compassion, but tell them to be quiet so we can hear our favourite politicians. There are those who stand by the side of the road with a sign reading 'will work for hope', and we speed up to get past them. There are those who have been tripped by the struggles of life, and we wonder why they can't pull themselves back to their feet. Have mercy on us, God whose tears mingle with those we have ignored. You challenge us to gather up the poor, the angry, the hopeless, the lost, the most vulnerable and to bring them to you, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, has brought us to you through his life and love. (Silent reflection)**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

Take heart, dear friends. Look at what God has done! God gathers us from wherever we have wandered and brings us home along hope's highway.

**With forgiveness, God has restored our hopes; with grace, God takes our tears and transforms them into bouquets of joy; with the light of love, God rescues us from nightmares for our fears. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism**

**Congregational Commitment:**

Today we receive Maci Marie Lake into the family of Christ with joy and thanksgiving.

**We are members of the Body of Christ and inheritors of God's promise. Maci, in the name of Christ, we welcome you. As a baptized and baptizing church, we commit ourselves to support you within the community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism, nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer and encouraging one another in God's work.**

**Hymn:** Just as I Am **VU 508**

**Offertory Hymn:** For the Gift of Creation **VU 538**

**Music During Offertory:** Any Dream Will Do (Parker Butler)

**Offertory Prayer:** (unison)

**Wow! Look what God does. Whatever we offer, large sums and pocket change, God uses it in serving the forgotten, in healing the broken and in welcoming those who have wandered far from home. Receive our gifts in gratitude and faithfulness, O God. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Scripture Readings:**

Hebrew Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:7-9

Responsive Psalm 126 on **page 850 of VU R2**

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:46-52

**Hymn:** In His Time

**Meditation**

**Ministry of Music:** Create in Me a Clean Heart

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Prayer Response:** Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

**Hymn:** O Love, How Deep **VU 348**

**Commissioning and Benediction:**

Now, let us go forth in God's love.

**We will go to answer the cries of those in need.**

Now, let us go forth with the grace of Jesus.

**We will go to let all know that Jesus wants to see them and offer them hope.**

Now, let us go forth in the community of the Spirit.

**We will go to gather all who are forsaken and alone.**