

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, October 6th, 2024
World Communion Sunday

Praise Medley: Bind Us Together, The Solid Rock

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: Create In Me

Call to Worship:

Come. Let us celebrate the supper of the Lord.

MEN: Let us make a huge loaf of bread.

WOMEN: Let us bring abundant wine as at the Cana wedding.

MEN: Let the women not forget the salt.

WOMEN: Let the men bring along the yeast.

Let many guests come, the poor and those disabled.

WOMEN: Come quickly. Let us follow the recipe of the Lord.

MEN: Let us knead the dough together with our hands.

WOMEN: Let us see with joy how the bread grows.

MEN: Today, we celebrate meeting with the Lord.

WOMEN: Today, we renew our commitment to the Kingdom.

ALL: Today, nobody will stay hungry.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

God, who nourishes us for the journey: it is strengthening to know that, as we gather at your table today, your people throughout the world are offering praise and thanksgiving as bread and wine are shared. May the mystery of your presence, experienced in our worship, bind us together into one worldwide community. Amen.

Hymn: Rejoice, the Lord is King **VU 213**

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession:

When we are tempted to give in to the popular but unjust way,
steadfast God, forgive us.

When we are tempted to leave the tough but necessary support to others,

God of never-ending compassion, forgive us.

When the powerful ones pressure us to give in, to compromise our principles,

God, friend of the oppressed, forgive us.

When we are tempted to ignore the needs of your community of faith,

God, source and inspiration of the church, forgive us.
(Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

"I am the bread of life," said Jesus. In the name of Jesus, the hungry are fed, the distressed supported and the truth revealed.

We want to partake in the Bread of Life.

Know that pardon and peace are yours.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: My Life Flows On **VU 716**

Offertory Hymn: He Came Singing Love **VU 359 vs 1**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

O God, we give thanks that: the Bread on the Table is a gift which goes far beyond personal nourishment and speaks of spiritual nourishment: the Wine on the table is a gift that goes beyond refreshment and speaks of love poured out; the offering which has been taken up, is but one of the gifts which goes beyond this faith community, speaks for the solidarity and mutual support for the Christ's people. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Responsive Psalm 8 on **page 732 of VU**

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:2-16

Ministry of Music: Lord, You Are Holy

Meditation

Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table **VU 457**

A Litany for Setting the Table (responsive alternating left and right of congregation):

Grain is gathered from the field; threshed and milled for flour.

We are formed from the grain of God's harvest.

Flour is mixed with water to produce basic dough.

The water of baptism unites us.

Yeast is added to transform the mixture.

The vision of God's realm draws us onwards.

Oil softens the dough and makes a new texture.

The Holy Spirit anoints us as the body of Christ.

A little salt improves the taste.

Jesus calls us to be the salt of the earth.

The bread is kneaded and shaped, molded and baked.

It is God who makes us a holy communion.

Grapes are harvested and crushed for juice.

You are the vine, we are the branches, O Christ.

Juice and skins are mixed with yeast for fermentation.

God's reign is coming, God's hope is here.

There is a time of waiting; then a time of pressing.

God's new life presses forth through the sediment of our lives.

And finally, the feast is here!

Let us celebrate the feast of our life in God.

Sacrament of Holy Communion (see insert)

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

Benediction