

Like the loving welcome of a brother or sister, may you feel the warm embrace of Jesus Christ this morning.

Christ is here among us.

Like the loving welcome of a best friend, may you know the unconditional acceptance of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, move in our hearts.

God welcomes each one of us as we welcome each other on this anniversary Sunday.

Come, let us Celebrate!

Come, let us worship God!

***HYMN** VU #337 *“Blessed Assurance”*

OPENING PRAYER *(unison)*

We come before you, God, on this 171st anniversary Sunday.

Today, we remember our church and our place in its life.

We renew our commitment to the church as a gift from you.

May your Spirit lead us into the future, as your presence has blessed us in the past.

Be with us now in our worship.

In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

MUSICAL Selection

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Let’s Recognize & Celebrate

Rev. Sue Browning

Louise Hall on behalf Antler River Region

Lay Supervision Team (LST)

Susan Wilkins, Ron Allison,

Laurie MacLean-Beatty, Mary Moore

***AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH**

THE NEW CREED *(unison)*

**We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.**

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

WE HEAR THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13: 31-32

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 28-34: 12: 1-3

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

REFLECTION “The Marathon of Faith”

***HYMN** VU #707

“For the Faithful Who Have Answered”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING INVITATION

(Collection Plates at each entrance)

***Please Stand for the Offering Hymn**

“Praise God”

Sung Response

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

praise God, all creatures high and low;

give thanks to God in love made known:

Creator, Word and Spirit, One

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*

Teach us, God, to offer the very best of who we are in the service of your will through the mission of this church: may we offer hope, joy, and reconciliation in the world so much in need. Receive what we give for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen

MUSICAL Selection

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 and power and
glory, forever and ever. Amen*

***CLOSING HYMN MV # 161**

"I Have Called You By Your Name"

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine.
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

***COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

*** GRACE**

***Sending forth HYMN MV#209**

"Go Make a Difference"

*Go make a difference. We can make a difference
Go make a difference in the world.
Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.*

Please remain standing until Bible is closed

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POSTLUDE

We are delighted to Welcome Rev. Sue Browning to our service today. It is a special service honouring our 171 years here as a congregation, but Rev. Sue has walked with Pastor Roxanne for many years on her faith journey, so we are very pleased to have you here sharing in the celebrations.

Rev. Sue Browning is an ordained minister who has served United Churches since 1991. She is also a Psychotherapist and a Marriage & Family therapist with a private practice and currently serves at Littlewood and St. Andrew's Westminster United Church congregations near London. She has been published in liturgical resources and academic journals. Sue is a mother and a grandmother and is married to Rev. Paul Browning.

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE

PRELUDE

OPENING OF BIBLE

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT
CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

(Please stand in body or spirit as able)*

GREETING: God is good. **All the time.**
All the time. **God is good.**

INTROIT: VU #315 "*Holy, Holy, Holy*"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Body Prayer

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

We come together today as people of faith to celebrate our Christian heritage here, in this place. Like the loving welcome of a mother or father, may you hear the gentle voice of God once again this morning.

God is here with us.