

**St. John's United Church
August 30th, 2026**

14th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Leader – Rev. Sungsoon Park

WELCOME

Greetings, welcoming newcomers, announcements, prayer concerns and celebrations.

We are looking for more choir members and musicians.

If you're interested, please join us.

CENTERING SONG MV 14 # Where Two or Three Are Gathered x 2

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light this candle as a sign of Christ's living presence among us.

When relationships are broken, Christ brings reconciliation.

When barriers divide us, Christ builds community.

When hope seems distant, Christ invites us into new possibilities.

May this light remind us that God's love reaches farther than we imagine.

The Christ candle is lit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls from places we did not expect.

Here we are.

God hears the cries of those who suffer.

Open our ears.

God sees injustice and rejects indifference.

Open our eyes.

Christ calls us beyond comfortable faith.

Give us courage to follow.

The Spirit calls us to love without pretense.

Teach us to overcome evil with good.

This ground is holy because God is present.

(All) Let us worship God.

Regular Office Hours

10:00am-12:00pm Tuesday and Thursday

Office: 780.826.3003

E-mail: bonnyvilleunited@gmail.com

Website: www.bonnyvilleunitedchurch.ca

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.
If you would like to continue with weekly offerings they can be sent in by:

Mail to: 4510-43Ave T9N 1R4

E-Transfer to: bonnyvilleunited@gmail.com

Join PAR: Contact Stacy Mercier 780.812.6492

This Week: August 30th, 2026

Worship Leader: Rev. Sungsoon Park

Greeters: Jeannette Poulin

Scripture: Roger Antoniuk

Fellowship: Millie Highberg & Bev Bowers

Next Week: September 6th, 2026

Worship Leader: Rev. Sungsoon Park

Greeters: Sharon Hebert & Patti Skuba

Scripture: Bim Bowers

Fellowship: Bim Bowers & Marilyn Thornton

When Israel came to Egypt,
when Jacob settled in the land of Ham,
 there you make your people fruitful,
stronger than their foes.

But when you turned their hearts to hate your people,
to deceitful dealing with your servants,
 then you sent your servant Moses,
and Aaron, whom you had chosen.

Refrain: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!
SERMON Reflection

HYMN VU # 567 Will You Come and Follow Me

COMMISSIONING

Before you go, look again at the ground beneath your feet.
This is holy ground.
 Look again at the people around you.
These are beloved people.
 Look again at the world beyond these doors.
This is God's beloved world.
 God sees its suffering.
May we learn to see.
 God hears its cries.
May we learn to listen.

BENEDICTION HYMN

Go now in Peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
 Go now in Faith, steadfast, strong and true,
know he will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in Love, and show you believe,
reach out to others, so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
 Go now, in Peace, in Faith and in Love.
Amen, Amen, Amen

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, you called Moses by name from a fire.
You revealed yourself as the God who sees suffering,
 hears the cries of those oppressed, and comes close to bring
 liberation.

**We want holy moments without the burden of holy
 responsibility.**

We want love without vulnerability.

We want resurrection without the road to the cross.

Teach us a genuine love, a hope that perseveres,
 a hospitality that makes room,
and a courage that refuses to repay evil with evil.

Kindle your holy fire within us.

Here we are, God. Speak, for we are listening. Amen.

OPENING HYMN VU # 509 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you called Moses from the burning bush and invited him to
 stand on holy ground.

**Yet we confess that we do not always recognize the holy ground
 beneath our feet.**

You call us to love genuinely, honour one another, rejoice in hope, be
 patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer.

**Jesus calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow
 him.**

Yet we often choose the easier path, seeking comfort rather than
 faithfulness, security rather than courage.

Forgive us; turn us again toward the way of Christ.

Give us courage to follow where you lead, compassion to serve those in need, and faith to trust that you are with us.

Create in us hearts that seek you, hands ready to serve, and lives willing to follow. Amen.

(Silence...)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: the God who spoke to Moses from the burning bush hears cries, remembers the covenant, and comes near to save.

The God whose faithfulness has been remembered from generation

to generation is faithful still.

In Jesus Christ, we encounter not condemnation but grace that invites us to start anew—to love authentically, to pursue peace, and to walk faithfully in Christ's path.

Thanks be to God! We are forgiven, renewed, and called again.

With God beside us, we will walk in love and follow Christ.

Amen.

HYMN MV # 79 Spirit, Open My Spirit

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

DEDICATION SONG VU # 541 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

**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.**

DEDICATION PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 3:1-6, 9-15 pg. 58, 59

Romans 12:9-16 pg. 200

Matthew 16:21-26 pg. 25

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 105 pt. 1&3 VU p. 828, 829

Refrain: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!

Give thanks and call on God's name. Make known to the nations what God has done.

Sing, O sing the songs of praise; tell of all God's wonderful deeds.

Exult in God's holy name;

let those who seek God be joyful in heart.

Refrain: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!

Turn for help to the One who is your strength; seek God's presence continually.

Remember the marvels the Most High has done, the wonders and judgements God has given,

O children of Abraham and Sarah, God's servants,

O offspring of Israel, chosen of God.

Refrain: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!

You are the eternal God,

your justice reaches every corner of the earth.

You are ever mindful of your covenant, the promise you gave to a thousand generations,

the covenant you made with Sarah and Abraham, the oath you gave to Isaac.

You confirmed it for Jacob as binding. To Israel your everlasting covenant you declared,

"To you I give the land of Canaan, as your appointed inheritance."