

## Ralph Connor Memorial United Church: annotated bulletin, updated July 7 2022

*Notes to the Preacher: Items marked \*\* are chosen by the preacher for inclusion in the bulletin, and sent to [office@ralphconnor.ca](mailto:office@ralphconnor.ca) and [music@ralphconnor.ca](mailto:music@ralphconnor.ca) (and your Worship Leader if you have their email) no later than Wednesday. Other/additional items could also be printed on the bulletin if that is your practice, e.g. a unison offertory prayer or a response used in the Prayers of the People, but we usually have only one or two worship elements on the bulletin rather than the full text of all prayers.*

*If you wish to use PowerPoint, we have a 75" Smart TV with an HDMI connector that is coiled up in the pulpit; typically the PPT is run by the preacher, using a small table to the left of the pulpit. There is a teal duo-tang on the lower shelf of the pulpit describing the technical options available for Audio-Visual.*

*Hymns: this congregation sings! Both Voices United and More Voices are well-known. , We usually have one "heritage hymn" (golden oldie) from Voices United, and at least one per week comes from More Voices.*

*Items in RED are done by the lay worship leader,  
everything in **BOLD** is led or announced by the preacher.*

*Before Worship: Worship leader checks to make sure the sound system is on! Amplifier is turned on by rocker switch, bottom right hand corner of sound cabinet. Also on the amplifier is a "Sanctuary volume" knob which is generally turned to about 2 O'Clock, as marked on the amp.*

*The mixer board has press-down buttons for each microphone; if the button is lit, that channel is on. The slider below that lit button indicates the volume for that channel. The PULPIT mic should be on, and the volume set to "zero" or just slightly above that; the RED slider at the right hand side of the mixer should also be set to "zero" or just slightly above that. With the Church empty, the volume should sound just a little bit too loud but not "ringing"; once we get a few bodies into the sanctuary, a lot of sound gets absorbed. If it sounds "just right" when the Church is empty, it will be too quiet once the congregation arrives.*

*Also... check to make sure that*

- The small peace candle and two offering plates are on the Communion Table*
- the heat level in the Sanctuary is OK (thermostat is behind pulpit).*
- the hymn numbers have been posted on the hymn board*
- the bulletins, and the Christ Candle, are in the narthex*

### GATHERING

*Prelude (typically, music begins 5-10 minutes prior to worship – of musician's choosing. When there is a choir anthem – every Sunday from September to June – the choir warms up from 9:00 to 9:40 AM)*

### Words of Welcome

*(and...if there are announcements that directly pertain to Worship, they happen here; otherwise they can wait until just before the end of the service)*

*"Good Morning! Welcome to Worship at Ralph Connor Memorial United Church.  
<introduce self> Whether you are here from Mini Thni ("mini sthnee") or Banff or*

Canmore, from elsewhere in the Bow Valley or elsewhere in the world, we hope you will find a place of welcome with us today. We welcome <...> who is our guest preacher this morning.

"If we have guests or visitors who would like to stand and introduce themselves, and let us know where you're from, please do so – we often find that there are very few actual 'degrees of separation' between us!"

"Please note that there will be refreshments after the service, and all are invited to stay for coffee/tea and conversation".

Receiving the Christ Candle and Lighting the Peace Candle *(this task is shared by preacher and lay worship leader, as noted below) (the candle is brought forward by a child, or by the greeters, received by the worship leader and placed on the communion table)*

"We know that Christ is with us at all times and in all places; in worship we signify that by receiving the Christ candle <lay leader receives Christ candle, and from it lights the peace candle>... and from that Candle, we light a peace candle, which expresses our hope for peace in the world, a peace founded in justice and in the equal sharing of resources".

## **\*\*Hymn**

*(during the school year, children age 4-14 go to "Kids Connection" after this hymn; in the summer there are activity packages available in the narthex. The greeters, are to engage with families on their way in. Our hope is to have volunteers to help with Toddler Care, ages 3 and under throughout the year but this is still a work in progress)*

## **Land Acknowledgement and Affirming Statement**

"As we gather this morning, we acknowledge that we do so on land held sacred for millennia by the peoples of the Stoney Nakoda Nation: Wesley, Bearspaw, and Chiniki – by the Tsuut'ina people, by the peoples of the Blackfoot Confederacy, Piikani, Kainai and Siksika, and by the people of the Métis Nation of Alberta zone 3. Along with that acknowledgement, we pledge to engage in a shared walk toward reconciliation, with our Indigenous hosts on this land."

"The rainbow vase (on the communion table) reminds us that both Ralph Connor Memorial, and Rundle Memorial in Banff, are Affirming Ministries of the United Church, committed to Christ's own ministry of radical welcome, and full affirmation of the belovedness of all people".

## **\*\*Call to Worship or Prayer of Approach (responsive)**

### **THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

**Preparing to hear the Word: a time of quiet reflection** *(most often including a period of 15-30 seconds of silence – a time to get centered prior to the scripture reading)*

**\*\* Chant** *(a seated, sung transition from silent preparation to scripture reading; this is a quieter single-verse hymn from MV, or one or two verses from a contemplative VU hymn)*

**\*\*Scripture Reading/s:** *(we usually use one of the lectionary readings, on rare occasions will use two. These are of the preacher's choice, and it is it's OK to go non-lectionary. We rarely use the Psalms in Voices United, but those can be used if you wish)*

**\*\*Hymn (optional)**

**Sermon**

OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD

**Passing the Peace:**

We now exchange visible signs of the peace of Christ.

May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

*(if there is "kids' Connection", children return to Worship at this time)*

**\*\*Hymn [or Anthem]**

*(in summertime, it's a hymn, chosen by the preacher; the rest of the year, an anthem, chosen by the music director. For anthems, the choir comes forward during the Passing of the Peace and sings from the dais and just in front of the dais)*

**Minute for Mission** (provided by RCMUC Stewardship Chair)  
ending with, "the offering will now be received"

**The Offering is Received** (**preacher or Worship Leader** hands plates to the ushers)  
(musician's choice of music during the offering)

**\*\*Offertory/Doxology**

**Offertory Prayer**

(preacher receives offering plates and places them on communion table)

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** ("Our Mother and Father...")

**Announcements**

*(it is always good to remind people of where next Sunday's service will be, i.e. Rundle Memorial in Banff or Ralph Connor Memorial in Canmore, and to reiterate that all are welcome to stay after worship today for refreshments and visiting in Gordon Hall)*

**\*\*Hymn**

**Commissioning/Benediction**

**Sung Amen VU 974 "Hallelujah, Amen"** (or, in Lent, "Joy be in thy heart")

*(the pianist plays this, unannounced, immediately following the commissioning/benediction; preacher may proceed down the aisle to the narthex during 2<sup>nd</sup> 'verse')*

Moment of Reflection (quiet time before Postlude) and Postlude (musician's choice)