Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

June 8, 2025

Centennial Celebration
Pentecost Sunday

We Gather Together

Prelude — Sherry Steele

Welcome — Rev. Valerie Oden

The Life and Work of the Church

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Introit — *Let us Build a House* *Vs. 1, Chorus* — MV 1

Call to Worship — Nathan Schoenhardt
(From Acts 2, written by E. Tehindrazanarivelo and S. Miller)

One: When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

All: Today, we gather in many places and ways, yet we are one in heart.

One: Moved by the Spirit, the first disciples were enlivened, and the Church was born.

All: Today, we celebrate 100 years of being the United Church. In their gathering on Pentecost, the people were changed by the Spirit.

One: In our gathering today, we seek the Spirit's direction for tomorrow.

All: With open hearts, let us worship God and pray for the Spirit's presence. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

*Opening Hymn — *We Praise You, O God* — VU 218

Children's Time — Alec Gallant, Children's Coordinator

*Children's Hymn — *Halle Halle Halle* — VU 958

Children are invited forward for a special time. After the hymn, children grades K-6 and Youth can go downstairs. Littler ones are welcome in the Family Room adjacent to the sanctuary where a volunteer will assist you.

We Celebrate the Past

Stories from the Past

Hymn — *Spirit God, Be Our Breath* — MV 150

We will weave the verses of this hymn with the stories of the past, vignettes from our history.

Anthem — *I Feel the Spirit (arr: Don Besig)* — RUC Choir, Paula Roberts, Director

Stories from the Past

Hymn — *Spirit of Gentleness* — VU 375

We will weave the verses and chorus of this hymn with the stories of the past, vignettes from our history.

*Hymn — *How Firm a Foundation* vss. 1, 3, 5 — VU 660

*Affirming our Faith — A New Creed — VU 918

We Offer our Prayers, our Gifts, our Lives

Prayer of Gratitude: Northern Spirit Region Annual Meeting Hosts

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Hymn — *Spirit of Life* — VU 381

Silent Prayer

Prayer of the People — Annika Schoenhardt

Spirit of God,
you hovered over the waters before the first days of Creation, and you hovered over the disciples on the first day that Christ's church came alive.

You were present to our ancestors in faith 100 years ago as they came together to form The United Church of Canada, and you were present in all those who continued to build a uniting church in the generations that followed.

We believe that you are still present with us today.

Open our hearts to you in this time
so that we might know your wisdom,
trust in the ways you proclaim,
and live into new life with hope!
In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the foyer. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Hymn — *She Flies On* — VU 380

*Benediction

*Postlude — Sherry Steele

**Indicates you are invited to stand as able*
VU refers to the red hard bound hymnal, Voices United
MV refers to the small paperbound hymnal, More Voices

Welcome to Riverbend United Church!

Whether you've been part of this community of faith for decades or this is your first day or everything in between, we're glad you're here. All are welcome, no matter what.

Join us for Birthday Ice Cream after worship!

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Sunday, June 8, 2025
10:30 a.m.