



October 5, 2025

World Communion Sunday

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele
Welcome and Announcements/Joys and Concerns Rev. Valerie Oden
Land Acknowledgement (In Unison) Charles Hitschfeld, Lay Leader

We acknowledge that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and 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 *Come All You People* MV 2
English, Shona, English

Call to Worship (Excerpted from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-4)

One: For everything there is a season,
All: and a time for every matter under heaven:
One: a time to be born, and a time to die;
All: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
One: a time to weep and a time to laugh;
All: a time to mourn and a time to dance.
One: May we remember that time is part of the sacred rhythm of life.
All: And may we joyfully use it well.

*Opening Hymn *Sing to the Lord of Harvest* VU 519

Children are invited to leave during the final verse of this hymn to go downstairs. They will return for Communion. Youth are invited to remain in worship this morning. Youth Discussion resumes downstairs next week.

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

We Bless the Bounty For the Edmonton Food Bank

We return these gifts of our abundance to you, Source of life, praying that they will bring nourishment, comfort, hope to someone in need. We give thanks for the earth that brought them forth and the human hands that tended them. Amen.

Scripture Reading Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Anthem *Turn, Turn, Turn* (Seeger, Arr: Emerson) RUC Choir

Reflection "Joyfully Sharing: Time" Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Response *Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing* VU 223

We Share at the Table

Please See Insert

We Go Forth to Serve

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. 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.

*Closing Hymn *All Who Hunger* VU 460

*The Sending Forth (From *Celebrate God's Presence*, adapted)

**We give thanks, source of life,
that you have refreshed us at your table
with these symbolic earthen gifts and the human hands
that have tended them.**

**Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world united in courage
and peace, joyfully giving our time back to you.**

In your holy name we pray, Amen.

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

“VU” refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United*

“MV” refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

Welcome to Riverbend United Church. If you're new with us, we would love to meet you. Feel free to introduce yourself! If you want to receive the weekly email with news and upcoming events just fill out a Welcome Card in the narthex or find someone with “ASK ME” on their name tag.

Today immediately following worship: Join us for coffee muffins and fellowship as you browse through “**RU in Action**”— a ministry fair of opportunities at Riverbend United Church. Thank you to Christine Ens for coordinating this event!

Take a look at the Orange Shirt in the narthex (foyer). You'll see all the commitments the congregation made last Sunday toward Truth and Reconciliation. Thank you to Carolyn Miller for leading that service.

October Sermon Series, Oct. 5, 12, 19:
Joyfully Sharing: Time, Talent, Treasure

Reminder: The Fall Feast is Sunday evening, Oct. 19. Tickets are available today after worship.

T-Coil Hearing Loop is installed: Turn your hearing aid to “T.”
Other hearing devices are also available at the sound desk.



World Communion Sunday

Riverbend United Church

October 5, 2025

10:30 a.m.

World Communion Sunday

Liturgy by Alydia Smith (adapted)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise!

Though creation sometimes weeps,

we wait lovingly for you, Source of life.

You created the heavens, the earth, and all that is in them:

you cast sunbeams, open flowers, and feed insects.

You are beyond the galaxies, under the oceans,

and inside each grain of wheat.

Thank you for the wonders of creation.

Though humanity sometimes weeps,

we trust in you, Creator.

You lived among us as a teacher, healer, and friend,

giving everyone around the world a sacred path to follow.

Thank you for the worldwide fellowship of disciples, who do their best to faithfully share your love with all of creation.

SANCTUS (sung) *Holy, Holy, Holy* *More Voices 203*

In Jesus, love incarnate,
you provide us all we need for each day:

his words comfort the weary;

his actions challenge the contented;

his touch heals the sick;

his presence feeds the deepest hunger in our souls.

In Jesus and in his feast, you provide for us the sustenance we need
to respond to the cries of creation:

The bread of life nourishes our deprived bodies.

The cup of blessing revives our thirsty souls.

The gathered community strengthens our growing faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (sung)

More Voices 204

Though the church sometimes weeps,

we wait lovingly for you, God.

We join with our siblings around the world remembering the story:

On the night in which Jesus was betrayed,

he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it to his disciples saying:

“This is the cup of the new covenant,

poured out for you and for all people for forgiveness.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

God, we remember and give thanks for your Child Jesus,

and we ask that you bless and pour your Spirit on us gathered here

and on these symbolic gifts of bread and cup.

Make this broken bread whole in our taking.

Make this full cup overflow in our sharing.

**With these symbolic elements, nourish and enliven us,
our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer.**

Praise be to you, now, tomorrow, and forever.

GREAT AMEN (sung)

More Voices 205

All are welcome to Christ's table. Please come forward as you are able down the centre aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat by the outside aisle. The centre serving station has only gluten free elements. If you prefer to be served in your seat, lift a hand and the elements will be brought to you.