

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Creating God, continually giving, we dedicate our offerings as gifts of ourselves and other resources from the work of our hands. I don't think this is needed. As a form of our worship, accept these gifts with thanksgiving. Amen!

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

****CLOSING HYMN:** MV # 214 "May God's Sheltering Wing."

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Leader: As you go forth from this place we call the church, remember to hold unto your faith the source of inner light. Go forth, Illuminate the world as you are able.

All: When God is on our side, above us, around us and before us, we will courageously go forth to face the uncertainties of the new year.

We are not alone! Thanks be to God!



Beaverlodge-Wembley-Hythe Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
403-10th Street, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

Sunday, January 7, Baptism of the Lord

MINISTER: Rev. Dr. Dorcas Kanana Muketha

PIANIST: Shirley Preuss

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let all ascribe to God for who he is and what he is doing.

All: We credit God for creation, beauty, and holiness.

Leader: Let us ascribe to God his powerful voice that moves above waters and all the things we see, touch, and smell.

All: We ascribe to the Lord our God who is enthroned above the waters his sovereignty and profess it on earth and in the heavens.

Leader: Come, let us gather with gladness to worship and experience God's wonder and surprises in the new year.

All: We gather with zeal to be immersed in God's presence and grace each day. Glory to God!

****OPENING HYMN:** MV # 7 "Gather Us In."

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION (in Unison)

Creating God, sometimes we forget to credit your power and your beautiful work of creation. We forget your holiness and when you



speak, we tend to mistake your voice with other voices around us. We sometimes fail to see our limitations and are blinded in clearly seeing things. We ask that you give us the vision and courage to face the world of the new year with eyes of love and compassion so that we live every day new. Amen!

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Beloved, God does not count our mistakes, his love for his creation since creation, is well articulated in his Word that offers wisdom and glorious light to see things clearly and learn the mystery of what we are meant to do. Thanks be to God!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us join in 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 the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us greet one another with words of peace.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you,

All: And, with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

****CHILDREN'S HYMN: MV # 157 "I Am a Child of God."**

In scripture God speaks to each of us. Listen for the voice of God.

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 1:4-11

The word of God to us, God's people.

REFLECTION: "MORE IN BAPTISM"

****HYMN: MV #161 "I Have Called You by Your Name."**

THE CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

Statement of Purpose

The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God.

By water and the Spirit, we are called, claimed, and commissioned: we are called God's own, welcomed as children of God.

Christ claims us, united with Christ, united with one another and the Christian community of every time and place.

we are commissioned to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the church in the world.

HYMN: VU #444 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

BAPTISM RENEWAL: Optional for the congregation

Church, hear this record of Jesus' radical concern for welcoming children: People were bringing little children to Jesus so that he might bless them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will not enter. "And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. [Mark 10:13-16]

Presentation of the Child [Chairperson Brent Cage]

On behalf of the congregation of Beaverlodge United Church, I present the following Child for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism: Felix Aiden is the son of Tanner [Riley] and Katie Thuy Dung] Preuss. Dan Nguyen Nu Luong, Dan & Annette Preuss Felix's grandparents and Harold Kathy Beamish, Barb Morris, and Shirley Preuss great grandparents and Asley Dickenson Godparent.

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND PROMISES [TO THE PARENTS]

Leader: Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the Spirit?

We do, by the grace of God.

Leader: Will you follow in the way of Jesus Christ, resisting oppression and evil, seeking justice, and witnessing to God's love for all creation?

We will, God being our helper.

Leader: Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words and actions?

We will, God being our helper.

Leader: Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, and love and serve others?

We will, God being our helper.

COMMITMENT OF PARENTS

Leader: In baptism, Felix Aiden marks an important step in his journey of faith.

Will you [as his parents] share your faith with Felix, growing with him in faith, hope, and love?

We will, God being our helper.

COMMITMENT OF GODPARENTS

Leader: Will you pray for this child and take care he may learn and live the faith?

I will, God being my help.

***CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT**

Leader: As the congregation of Beaverlodge United Church, do you commit yourselves to supporting and nurturing this child within a community—that worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

We do, by the grace of God.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: "A New Creed" – VU #918 (in 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE POURING OF WATER

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 good to give God thanks and praise.

Let us pray...

Gracious and Holy God, we bless you for the gift of life, and, within it, the gift of water. Over its unshaped promise—your Spirit hovered at creation.

By water, comes the growth of earth. Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom. In the waters of the Jordan—your Child Jesus was baptized.

Now—may your Spirit be upon us and what we do here, that this water—may be a sign for all new life in Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

Felix Aiden,

I baptize you, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

MARKING WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

Felix, child of God, from this day forward, you bear the sign of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Felix Aiden may the Holy Spirit, Love’s power, guide you, inspire you, and work within you, all the days of your life.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF A CANDLE

[Baptismal Candle lit from Christ Candle, signifying the light of Christ, and as a reminder of the link between baptism and Easter.]

Felix, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works as you grow, and give glory to God.

Amen.

BAPTISMAL STOLE

Felix, you have put on Christ, in Christ you have been baptized.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

PRESENTATION OF GIFT

DECLARATION AND CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

In the name of Jesus Christ, Felix has been received into the holy catholic church, the body of Christ in the world.

Baptismal Hymn: “God Claims You”

Felix Aisen, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

We this day do all agree a child of God you’ll always be.

Felix Aiden, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

We your family love you so, we vow to help your faith to grow.

BLESSING

May the grace of Christ attend you; the love of God surrounds you; the Holy Spirit keep, nurture, and hold you closely.

Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Learning the Gospel at Camp

INVITATION FOR OFFERING

Friends, we are called to be the church, the body of Christ. As part of our participation in this body, we are invited to generously offer our hearts and other resources.

****OFFERING HYMN: VU # 644 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry.”**

