



love among us. Your word comes to us in the rushing of the wind, and our lives are reawakened in you. Open us to encounter your word in new and powerful ways during worship. Help us place your word at the centre of our life together. Maker of the universe, refine and mould our lives. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE: (Responsive)**

One: There are moments in all our lives when we do not express gospel love. There are times when we ignore the needs of others and of ourselves. There are times when we are arrogant, resentful, and irritable – all of which make it hard to love. Yet, through Christ we are assured that God's love never ends. God's love endures, bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. God's love never ends.

**All: God's love for us knows no limits. Even when we have strayed from the gospel's word of love, God is still there. We are welcomed, included, and affirmed as beloved and created in God's image, wherever we find ourselves on life's road.**

✠HYMN: *Like a Rock*

MV#92

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**Amilie and Jaiden Mitchell-Foster** children of Kendra and Sheona Mitchell-Foster

INTRODUCTION

Following the tradition of Jesus who welcomed children into his community, we celebrate the presence of children within this community of faith and offer to children the sacrament of baptism.

(Invite participants to come forward)

On behalf of Trinity United, I present **Amilie Noelle and Jaiden Miles Mitchell-Foster** children of Kendra and Sheona Mitchell-Foster we acknowledge the decision they have made to have **Amilie and Jaiden** baptized. We look forward to journeying with them in finding a path between the tradition of infant baptism and the personal profession of faith at confirmation in The United Church of Canada tradition. Fully respecting the diversity of the community gathered, we affirm the love of God made known in these children and the sacredness of the covenant shared between each child, parents, and Trinity United Church.

REQUEST FOR BAPTISM

What do you ask of God's church at Trinity United for your children?

**Parents: We ask that they be baptized into the faith and family of God's love.**

PROMISES OF PARENTS

*Congregation to Parents: 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?*

**Parents: I do, by the grace of God.**

*Congregation to Parents: Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words and actions?*

**Parents: I will, God being my helper.**

*Congregation to Parents: Will you care for them and help them to take their place within the mission and witness of Christ's Church?*

**Parents: I will, God being my helper.**

#### COMMITMENT OF FAMILY

*Congregation to Family Members: Will you, as part of their extended family, give your support to them by sharing your faith, prayer, love, and action?*

**Response: I will, God being my helper.**

#### COMMITMENT OF CONGREGATION

Jesus calls us to welcome children into the full life of our community, opening our table and hearts to those most vulnerable, offering the wisdom of the ages to all who hunger for truth, justice, and love.

The gospels testify that all people are invited to accept God, the God who has already accepted us. The challenge is always for us to accept that we are already accepted.

**All: So, we, the members of God's Beloved Community, proclaim that same witness. Amilie and Jaiden, the same God who has claimed every person as a beloved child, also proclaims that you are a beloved child.**

As Trinity United Church, do you vow to support these people in their promises?

**All: We do, with the help of God. We also promise to walk with Amilie and Jaiden on their spiritual journey. On this holy adventure with God, we will celebrate our beloved kinship, live out God's vision for the world, and embody God's commonwealth of love.**

#### BAPTISMAL PRAYER

(The Water is Poured into the font)

Listen to its free flowing powers;

Listen to its releasing powers;

Listen to its healing powers;

Listen to its welcoming powers;

Listen to its loving powers.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word.

Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the Promised Land.

You have come to us through water in the stories of Jesus who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, and became living water to

a woman at the Samaritan well. Jesus washed the feet of the disciples and sent them forth to baptize with water and spirit.

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. Bless all who touch and taste this water that they may be ever reminded of your abiding presence and claim on their lives. Amen.

#### THE ACT OF BAPTISM

One: Amilie Noelle / Jaiden Miles, we baptize you in the name of Jesus Christ, the One who reveals the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The God of Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel. The Spirit of love, justice, and mutuality. The Holy Three found in plants, insects, and animals. In this town, this planet, and the entire cosmos. Who calls us to new life, new hope, and new creation. The Creator who is in your past, present, and future. In the name of God, Christ, and Spirit. Amen!

**All: Amilie / Jaiden, you are a beloved child of God, with whom God is well pleased. Amen!**

#### BAPTISMAL CANDLE & CERTIFICATE

Amilie / Jaiden, may this candle remind you throughout your life of Jesus, who opened peoples' minds and hearts to see the 'light' of God's presence within them. Kendra and Sheona, use this candle to help you tell Jocelyn the story of their baptism, as you light it each year to remember this day.

#### WE LISTEN

#### SCRIPTURE: **Luke 4:21-30 (NRSV)**

(Lectionary@Home: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13)

#### Luke 4:21-30

<sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup>He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" <sup>24</sup>And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup>But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in

the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Reader: This is the witness of The Church.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM:

SERMON: Speaking Truth

**WE RESPOND**

✠HYMN: *Though I May Speak*

VU#372

**PASTORAL PRAYERS & The Prayer of Jesus**

VU#960

*Please include this week:*

*Joy Greenly*

*Janice Fast*

*Louise Chernenkoff*

*Bob Hawk*

*Gordon Smith*

*Callum MacRitchie*

*Dave Jenkins*

MINUTE FOR TRINITY

INVITATION TO RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

GATHERING OUR GIFTS

Through our Tithes, Offerings, Envelopes, & PAR

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** *Christ Be Our Light*

**Projection**

**Many the gifts,  
Many the people,  
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants  
to one another,  
making your kingdom come.**

**Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts,  
Shine through the dark [night].  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.**

✠OFFERTORY PRAYER: (Unison)

**Empowering God; you have put words in our mouth and gifts in our being. You have entrusted to us skills and abilities for ministry that transform lives. With a**

deep sense of gratitude, we dedicate all that we have and all that we are to spreading the word – your word – with voices born of love. Amen.

## WE SERVE

### SARAMENT OF COMMUNION

Come, all who journey in faith: bring your lives, fragile and holy. There is a place for you here.

**All: We come to this table, ready to see anew.**

God of grace, from age to age you infuse every particle of the universe with wonder.

From age to age you surround every form of life with love.

From age to age you call to every corner of creation with promise.

Some travellers once journeyed together beneath a fiery star to seek the treasure of their hearts. Kneeling in a stable they found the gift they sought.

In this season, we also set out seeking signs of your presence and remembering how this child of Bethlehem broke bonds of oppression to pour out compassion for all.

We remember a final meal. Where bread and cup were blessed and shared with new meaning: “Here is life. Here is promise. You are my beloved.”

As we share this bread and cup may we open ourselves to the strength of this love.

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Server: The Bread of Life.

**Response: Amen.**

Server: The Cup of Promise.

**Response: Amen.**

†HYMN: *I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me*

VU#575

†COMMISSIONING and BENECTION

Go and be God's transforming presence in the world. Go and be Trinity United!

BENECTION

†Sung Response: *This Little Light of Mine*

Projection

POSTLUDE

Participating in worship leadership today: *Rev. Bob Fillier; Worship Assistant – Wendy Hudyma; Pianists- Angela Alba and Vic Steblin; Choir Director – Erica Skowron; Associate Choir Director – Diane Kjørven; Adult Choir; Live Streaming – Rebecca Fillier; Wonderhosts - Shannon Carson and Megan Homan; Greeter- Don Homan*

### Pastoral Prayer:

Creator God, we turn to you in every situation in life. We know you have the power to transform the void into order, the shadows into light, and broken lives into restored lives.

In this hour, we turn to you again and ask for your power to bend toward the situations that are on our hearts.

Fill the void of loneliness that grips so many in our modern era. Shine your light in the violent places.

May your light reveal the awful truths about the human cost of conflict not only in foreign war zones but also hidden in families closer to home.

May your light offer hope to those in harm's way.

Restore lives, which have been broken.

We have not loved one another with our whole hearts and our relationships in our families, our workplaces, and our communities of faith have suffered.

We seek your love to lead us back to right relationship with one another. Grow in us a love for your word and your way in the world.

Especially this morning we pray for [insert names of people, places, or world events]

Creator, hear these our prayers as we join together and sing the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, Our Father...Amen.