

**Balzac Pastoral Charge
of the United Church of Canada
Sunday January 14, 2024
The Baptism of Jesus
Minister: Kelly Grittner, DLM**

Prelude *I Want to Know You More* *arr. M. Hayes*

Welcoming and Land Acknowledgement

“As we gather together, let us pause to remember that we live, work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the nations of Treaty 7. As Christ’s people, may we be people of love, of truth, and of reconciliation. May we live with respect on this land, and in peace and friendship with its people.”

Gathering as God’s people

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

When the light of your love grows dim,
May this light rekindle the flame so that your love lights up the room.

Call to Worship

We enter this space for worship,
called by God to pray together.

We enter this space for worship,
called by God to share our lives together.

We enter this space for worship,
called by God into Sabbath rest.

We enter this space for worship,
leaving behind the week that has gone.

We enter this space for worship,
to be refreshed for worship in our daily lives.

We enter this space for worship,
worshipping the God who calls us ever onward.

Invocation and Gathering *MV 21*

“Open our Hearts” (Repeat x 2, remain seated)

*“Open our hearts, open our minds,
open our lives to you O loving God”*

Open our hearts” (last time)

Childrens Chat

Passing of the Peace *Nearer, My God, to Thee* *arr. M. Hayes*

We exchange words and gestures of peace...

“Peace be with you”

Opening Prayer

God of all grace, Spirit of all love,
Christ alive in our lives –
open us to the possibilities of today, we pray.
Give us minds that wonder,
hearts that seek,
and lives that offer healing-
so that wherever we go,

we might live the invitation to “choose abundant life!”
Alleluia! Amen!

Hymn *I the Lord of Sea and Sky* VU 509

SCRIPTURE READING : Mark 1:4-11 “Jesus is Baptized”

REFLECTION “Chosen to Belong”

Hymn *I Have Called You by Your Name* MV 161

Presentation of the Offering *Give Thanks* arr. C. Curry - *Instrumental*
Offertory: *Grant Us, God, the Grace* VU 540

“Grant us God the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free
That ourselves and all our living,
we may offer faithfully”

Dedication of the Offering
Bless these gifts we offer, O God,
that they may teach us to be disciples:
creating peace, not war,
building bridges, not destroying,
learning understanding, not division.
Bless us that we may be a living offering
for your work in the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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, the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

Hymn *Shall We Gather at the River* VU 710

Commissioning and Words of Blessing

Postlude *Mighty is Our God* arr. L. Larson

Announcements:

- **Tags:** If anyone is missing or does not have a BUC nametag, please let Zoe Walkes know via email to balzacunitedchurch@gmail.com.
- **For any general information on the Church please see the BUC Website Linked here:**
<https://balzacunitedchurch.com/>
- **Minister Kelly’s phone number if needed:** # 403 219 3535
- **Zoom** - Joining each Sunday service via Zoom is available every Sunday, every weekly email will have a link to follow that allows you to join the service. If you have trouble getting into the Zoom meetings or accessing the link information, please contact Zoe Walkes or Ruth Unser for further help.
- **Offering** - On behalf of our beloved BUC, we ask that offerings be given when able. We are very blessed to have a congregation and community that is very generous year-round. There are expenses that the church has

that need to be paid, and with support from people like you, is the reason why we can keep the heat on and the water running. Thanks to all and please keep giving.



First Third Ministry Corner
Everything for our kids, youth & young adults

The email address for all Sunday school, youth and young adult programming for Balzac United Church is BUCfirstthirdministry@gmail.com. Please send all Sunday school and youth group correspondence to me through this new address. I am also available to chat on my cell number (587)229-3878.

Our programs can't run without the tremendous efforts of volunteers. We are currently in need of volunteers to help with the following:

- nursery volunteers, either for one Sunday or on a rotational basis

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to help support this vital ministry

- Sunday, January 14: Mission & Service Projects begin today! There will be 2 groups, led by Angela and Victoria. Stay tuned for more details about the countries we've chosen.
- January 28, February 25, and March 24: Victoria will be leading her group in mission & service, while Angela and her group will be leading our youngest kids in some special Sunday school classes designed just for them!
- Thursday, February 1: Youth Group
- March 3: Mission and Service Fair Day! (*More details to follow with a possible prep day on March 2.)