

Balzac United Church

September 7, 2025, 10:00am – 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Guest Minister: Dr. Alex Shawn

Music Ministry: Lee Dowan, Dr. Alex Shawn

Introit: *Little White Church by the Rail* (see back page)

Lyrics by Ron Beagle

Welcome and Announcements

The Peace Pole, Victoria Walkes

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.”

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

Welcome to all as we join in worship this morning.

As sure as a prairie sunrise, we lift each other up, united.

We come together as faith-filled people.

As sure as a prairie sunset, all our prayers rest in the heart of God.

Let the seeds of our faith grow deep...

Connecting us to the vast, rich soil of creation.

In our receiving, and our believing, let us worship.

(Don Sellstead, New Minas, N.S.)

Opening Hymn: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

VU 135

Candles of Joy, Concern and Sorrow

Opening Prayer

Hymn: *Ask Me What Great Things I Know*

VU 338

Scripture: Luke 14:25-33, Luke 21:1-4

Reflection: **The Cost of Being a Christian**

- Dr. Alex Shawn

Hymn: *Spirit of the Living God*

VU 376

Offering:

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: *I Have Called You by Your Name*

MV 161

Benediction

LITTLE WHITE CHURCH BY THE RAIL

There's a church in the valley by the railroad
Where stresses of living will pale.
No church is so anxious to welcome
As this Little White Church by the Rail.

CHORUS

So come, come, come, come,
Come to this church here in Balzac;
A church that will always prevail.
'Cause there's no finer place to worship
Than this Little White Church by the Rail.

In August we break for a short time,
But longing will always remain
For sermons that seem punctuated
By the horn of a passing train.

CHORUS

- *Lyrics by Ron Beagle 2023*