

WEST PLAINS UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: The Rev. Joyce Pearce
Organist: Lianne Tan
Secretary: Catherine Floyd

Sunday, May 6, 2012 10:30 a.m.
Easter 5
Sacrament of Holy Baptism

MISSION STATEMENT

We are an active faith community, seeking to deepen our relationship with God through thoughtful worship, prayer, uplifting music, outreach, friendship and study, inspired by a setting overlooking nature. We are a growing church family, welcoming people of all ages to follow Jesus' teachings in their lives.

**indicates an invitation to stand, as you are able.*
VU indicates our Voices United hymn book.
MV indicates the More Voices hymnal supplement.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We prepare for worship with a time of silence.

Prelude

Opening Words: Pam Grace Douglas

*Come, enter this sanctuary,
this home of West Plains church family.
Bring your joys and be thankful.
Bring your troubles and be trusting.
Bring your hearts to share in God's love.*

- * Call to Worship: (Please stand as you are able) Pam Grace Douglas
ONE: Let us love one another because love is from God.
ALL: We are grafted to the vine of love in Jesus Christ.
ONE: God fills us with strength to reach out to the world,
ALL: with our branches of care bearing good fruit.
ONE: Let us abide in God's love as we gather,
ALL: and bring harmony into our lives and into our world.

- * Processional Hymn: VU 402 We Are One

Welcome & Announcements

Minute For Choir: Lois Lennon

Minute Person: Linda Sanderson

Opening Prayer

Solo: Somebody Bigger than You and I - Soloist: Joan Fox

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

- * Baptismal Hymn: VU 444 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
- verses 1 & 2
(Youth and Kidz Club come forward to the front pews)

- * Affirmation of Faith:

We believe in the God of astonishing hope
who calls us to common futures
grounded in the ways of peace, fairness,
respect, and equality.

We believe in Jesus the Christ

who accompanies us in all our explorations;
right turns, wrong turns,
openings, and closings.

We are never alone in any of these.

And we believe in the Spirit of Life

who fills us with a burning desire for new ways;
equipping and delighting us

with an passionate vision for a renewed heart and world.

Baptism Introduction:

Sisters and brothers, let us celebrate God’s gift of grace given to us in the sacrament of baptism.

There is one body and one Spirit; we have one hope in Christ.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, Creator of us all.

Out of the water of baptism we rise with new life, forgiven, renewed, and one with Christ, members of Christ’s body.

Presentation of Candidate

Betty Denton

On behalf of the congregation of West Plains United Church I present **Elsie Diane Ruth** for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

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 our thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

The Pouring of the Baptismal Water

(Parents, godparents and child come forward)

Commitment of the Parents: (Nancy and Daniel Ruth)

I ask you, do you present your child, earnestly desiring that by holy baptism Elsie be made a member of the church of Jesus Christ?

ANSWER: WE DO.

Will you endeavor to show your child the Christian life and to grow with Elsie in faith?

ANSWER: WE WILL, GOD BEING OUR HELPER.

Commitment of the Godparents: Ginette Marino & David Ruth

Will you the godparents of Elsie promise to encourage her in the faith and to keep her family in your prayers?

ANSWER: WE WILL.

Congregational Commitment

Let us pledge our support and care to this family.

As a baptized and baptizing people, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within the community of faith. We welcome Elsie as a member of the family of God. We offer ourselves to be part of her family in Christ, to surround her with God's love, and to pray for her that she may know God's love all of her life. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism. Amen.

The Act of Holy Baptism

Introduction to the Congregation

Lighting of the Candle

Joyce Pearce

Elsie, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to God. **Amen.**

Presentation of Bible

Joyce Pearce

Elsie, receive this book, our Holy Scriptures, and hear what the Spirit is saying to you and to the Church. **Amen.**

Presentation of Certificate

Betty Denton

Declaration and Congregational Welcome

Into the household of faith,

we welcome you with joy and thanksgiving.

We are members of the body of Christ.

We are inheritors of God's promise.

In the name of Christ, we welcome you.

Choir Blessing: VU 454 May God Who Creates You

(Family is seated)

Hymn: VU 444 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, verses 3 & 4

(Youth and Kidz Club leave for their classes)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 4:7-12

Pam Grace Douglas

"love one another"

Psalm 100 VU p.820 (sung)

Gospel Lesson: John 15:1-8 "*abide in me*" Pam Grace Douglas

Scripture Response: Pam Grace Douglas

ONE: This is the power of Christ's love.

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Scripture Choral Refrain: MV 97 Listen, God Is Calling

**Listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness,
comfort and joy. (repeat)**

Sermon: "Re-connecting to the Vine of Love!"

Silent Meditation

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Choir Anthem: Rejoice in the Lord Always - R. Gieseke

Invitation to the Offering

Hymn of Dedication (*seated*): MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts

* Presentation and Dedication of Offering with Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer Choral Refrain: MV 96 And When You Call for Me

**And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern and Lord's Prayer

Prayer Choral Refrain: *same as above*

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

- * Closing Hymn: VU 602 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

- * Blessing and Sending Forth
- * Threefold Amen

- * Lunch Grace: VU 549 For All Your Goodness, God
**For all your goodness, God, we give you thanks.
Thanks for the food we eat, and for the friends we meet;
for each new day we greet,
we give you thanks. (sung three times)**

- * Sung Benediction VU 646 We Are Marching
**We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
(the light of God.)
We are marching, (marching, we are marching,)
oo-oo, (marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.
(the light of God.)
We are marching, (marching, we are marching,)
oo-oo, (marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.**

Postlude

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To all who are worshipping with us today, we extend a warm welcome. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the front foyer. Please join us for lunch and conversation in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the church.

The **flowers** in the Sanctuary today are placed in honour of Joyce's 10th Anniversary at West Plains.

The **greeters** today are **Eleanor Unsworth** and **Margaret Hamilton**; the **ushers** are **Duncan & Mavis Hart**; the **counting team** is **Darlene Groves, Jenny Hatch** and **Bert Posedowski**.

The **West Plains Kidz Club Teacher** is **Bev Biggley**. The **Youth Leader** is **Megan Groves**.

Please keep in your prayers this week:

Axie & Jim Elliott - at home

Marion Gaylard - at home

Pearl McColl - Joseph Brant Hospital

Conference Prayer Cycle - Ryerson, Hamilton Pastoral Charge

We remember all those who are in need of our prayer energy.

NEXT SUNDAY - May 13th - Christian Family Sunday- featuring our Men's Choir for Mother's Day!

TODAY! Newsletters are ready for pick up – please pick up yours and any you are willing to deliver – thank you!

Men's Choir for Mother's Day: Inviting all men to sign up for the choir anthem on Mother's Day - a West Plains tradition! The sign up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board - calling all male youth/men!!

Rehearsals are as follows:

Today after church lunch

Thursday, May 10th 7-8 pm - final run-through

Sunday, May 13th 10 am to "warm up"

All men, young and older, are welcome to join!

Pies, Books and Treasures Galore! - Saturday May 12th, 10-12.

Just a reminder to all who signed up to bake a pie or are donating good quality books or treasures for the mini garage sale, you can **drop off** your items **Friday, May 11th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Your *baked pies* can also be dropped off early Saturday, May 12th between 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Thanks to everyone for their support and we hope you take advantage of purchasing one of the delicious pies as a Mother's Day Treat!

Ladies, the **UCW Annual Spring Fling** will take place on **THURSDAY June 7th**. We have made reservations at Cafe Troy for 12:30 p.m. and will carpool from the Church at noon. All ladies in the congregation are welcome. We hope you will consider joining in this fun afternoon of food and fellowship. More information and a sign up sheet have been posted on the UCW bulletin board.

Aldershot Community Outreach Project: Area churches have been planning an outreach ministry to the Aldershot Community. A lunch gathering will take place every Monday for 3 months at St. Matthew's Anglican Church. The first lunch is on Mon. May 7th 12 noon to 2 pm. We are still looking for some volunteers to help with this project. The list is on the bulletin board.

Scripture Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

GREETERS

May 13 Todd Gordon
 Kathy Gordon

USHERS

Yvonne Rolland
Marj Wison

LAY READER

May 13 Jenny Hatch

WEST PLAINS THIS WEEK:

Rev. Joyce takes her day off on Mondays; urgent phone messages or emails will receive a response.

Sundays 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. – AA Meetings

Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. - Exercise classes

- Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Darlene Groves Counseling

Tues. & Wed. 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. - Dog Training

Wednesdays 6:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Nar-Anon

Thursdays 12:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Golden Horseshoe Chorus

Thursday 1:00 p.m. - Westenders

Thursdays 7:15-8:30 p.m. - Al-Anon

TODAY - Newsletters Distributed

Thurs. May 10 - 1:00 p.m. - **Westenders**

Thurs. May 10 - 7-8 pm - Men's Choir Rehearsal

Sat. May 12 - 10 a.m. - Noon - **Pies, Books & Treasures Galore!**

WEST PLAINS UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sun. May 13 - **MOWP Choir**

- **M & S Meeting** after Worship

Wed. May 16 - 7:30 a.m. - **Meat Pies**

Wed. May 16 - 2:00 p.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Thurs. May 17 - 8:30 a.m. - **Clergy Lectionary Group**

Thurs. May 17 - 7:15 - 9:15 p.m. - **Choir Practice**

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

East Plains Perennial Plant Sale - Fri. May 11 2-8 pm and

Sat. May 12 7:30 am to 12 noon. 375 Plains Road East. *See flyer on front bulletin board.*

Baptism Biography

ELSIE DIANE RUTH was born on August 26, 2011 in Oakville. She is the beautiful daughter of Nancy and Daniel. The family live in Waterdown. Dan is a computer programmer for the Hamilton Public Library and Nancy works for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The couple are renovating their house and they are animal lovers and enjoy nature. Elsie's godparents are Ginette Marino and David Ruth. Welcome to the Ruth family and friends to West Plains United Church! Our blessings to Elsie and all of you on this special christening day.