

## **The Celebration of Baptism**

### **Statement of Purpose**

### **Presentation of Candidate**

### **Profession of Faith and Promises**

Commitment of Parents: Polly Leonard and Ian Ford,

Do you believe in God, Source of love;  
in Jesus Christ, love incarnate;  
and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

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

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

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

Will you follow the way of Jesus Christ?

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

Will you join with your siblings in Christ's community of  
faith to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in  
creation, and love and serve others?

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

In baptism, *Owen* marks an important step in his journey of  
faith. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place  
within the mission and witness of Christ's Church?

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

### **Congregational Commitment (rise in body or spirit)**

We have heard the will of Owen's parents and sponsor. We  
receive *Owen Terrance Leonard-Ford* in Christ's name, as  
we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one  
household of faith in Jesus Christ. Will you support Owen  
with constant love, wholesome example, Christian  
teaching, and faithful prayer?

**We will, God being our helper.**

### **Affirmation of Faith "A New Creed"**

**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. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water**

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

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 the  
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,  
that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ, in  
whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## The Act of Baptism

### Baptism

### Blessing

### Marking with the Sign of the Cross

### Laying on of Hands

### Presentation of the Baptismal Candle & Certificate

*Owen Terrance Leonard-Ford*, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to God.

**Amen.**

### 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 the Christ, we welcome you.**

### Blessing

The grace of Christ attend you,  
the love of God surround you,  
the Holy Spirit keep you.

**Amen.**

## Holy Communion

### A Call to give Thanks

God of Blessing, we give thanks for your presence in the sound of joy in children's laughter, in the stories of hope from our ancestors, and in the love of those who nurture us. Amen.

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God, our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We give thanks because God is always with us.

God, you gave us people to live for you and for one another.

We praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

You showed Noah a rainbow;  
you gave Moses strength to free your people  
and taught Miriam to sing;  
you gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth;  
you gave David a harp to sing your praise.  
We praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

You sent Jesus to the world to show how much you love us and to always bring us back to you.

We praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

Jesus came as one of us, first an infant, then a child,  
a youth, finally an adult.

He rejoiced with those who rejoiced,  
and wept with those who wept.

It is through Jesus' teaching to us that we do as he did.

To the despairing, we speak words of hope.

To the sick, we give healing.

To the hurting, we befriend.

We do as you have taught us.

Therefore with all the saints of every time and place,  
we join the angels in their praise:

### **Song of Creation**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**\* Hymn:** "All Who Hunger" VU #460

### **Remembering Jesus at Table**

We gather at this table to remember that  
on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his friends,  
he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

**"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Each time you do this, remember me."**

That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks,  
passed it to his friends, saying:

**"Drink. This cup, poured out for you,  
is the promise of God.  
Whenever you drink it, remember me."**

We drink this to remember Jesus.

We remember Jesus' sacrifice and celebrate his resurrection;  
we await with hope his coming again  
to bring peace and justice to the earth;  
and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

### **Affirmation of Memory and Hope**

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

### **Transformation**

#### **Breaking, Pouring, Sharing**

Here at this table we break the Bread of Life.  
On this Day of Celebration where we complete our Covenant  
together, we pour the Cup of Promise.  
These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

#### **Thanks be to God**

Come, for all is now ready.

*Music provided by Nancy Handrigan and Carmen Peng*

### **Concluding Praise**

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **Completion of Covenant**

### **Statement of Purpose**

When a minister comes into our church we covenant with one another; we promise to journey with one another caring and being cared for. While God's covenant never ceases, our covenants with one another do. Today we mark the ending of the covenant between Rev. Don Sellsted and Orchard Valley Pastoral Charge.

### **Return of Ministerial Symbols**

#### **A Bible**

Thank you for sharing the words of our faith. May we be forever changed by the wisdom found within it.

**We will continue to place scripture at the centre of our life. The Word of God lives among us. Thanks be to God.**

#### **Water**

Thank you for sharing the joy of welcoming our faithful into the family of Christ.

**We will continue to celebrate new life in baptism: the font of blessing welcomes all. Thanks be to God.**

#### **Bread and Cup**

You have provided us the opportunity to experience and remember that Jesus is with us always.

**We will continue to break the bread and share the cup. The table invites us to taste and see that God is good. Thanks be to God.**

#### **Prayer Shawl**

Together we have shown our care for others, the cornerstone of our faith in practice.

**It is at the core of who we are and who we will continue to be, caring for others beyond ourselves. Thanks be to God.**

### **A Clock**

Over the past 8 years together, we have grown in spirit and love for one another.

**We will do the business of our community, we will care for one another and offer each other the opportunity for rest and change, the balance of life. Thanks be to God.**

### **Towel and Basin**

In living and acting in faith, we have reached out beyond ourselves to love friend and stranger alike.

**We will continue to serve others and to work for justice, following in the way of Jesus, Friend and Servant of all. Thanks be to God.**

### **Mug, Cup & Saucer**

We are grateful for our time together to create bonds of honest love and care within this faith community.

**We will continue to nurture the faith and vitality amongst the people of our faith community. Thanks be to God.**

### **Children and Youth**

I have watched you all, our youth and children, grow in numbers and in faith. It was a profound honour to be able to baptise so many youth and children, bless them into the whole family of Jesus Christ. The youth that worked their way through confirmation are the future of our church. Bless each of you for every moment we laughed and prayed and played and learned together. You will be forever in my heart.

**We will continue to encourage the participation of youth and children. To listen to them and to grow with them to help them be our future with Christ.**

## **Keys**

Our faith, our church, is not a building. It is the heart of Christ dwelling within it through each of us. Thank you for respecting this space as our place to live out our faith.

**We will care for our building and the heritage it represents as we discern our way forward.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Hymn:**        “Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire”    VU #372

## **Litany of Thanksgiving**

We are all called by God to offer our unique gifts and work.

**But some are called to lead in particular ways.**

We are all called by God to speak our faith.

**But some are called to preach to the community with prophetic words of compassion and justice.**

We are all called by God to comfort those who suffer.

**But some are called to share in the pain of the entire flock.**

We give thanks for Rev. Don who has been a shepherd in our midst.

**One who has led us, taught us, challenged us, and shared both our trials and our joys.**

**We rejoice in the ways we have been blessed by your ministry among us...**

We invite you to accept this candle to remember us.

Remember that God's light always burns within you.

Go now, surrounded by our love and led by God, Christ, and Spirit.

**Amen.**