

**PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH**

50 Newport Cr., Saint John, NB E2K 2J9  
506-632-4030

**SERVICE - 11:00 AM – FEBRUARY 14, 2010**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*\*Please stand, as you are able*

***Gathering At The Foot Of The Mountain***

Prelude

**\*Hymn #103 “How Good, Lord To Be Here”**

**\*Welcoming One Another**

Announcements & Celebrations

Call to Worship

We come into this ordinary place expecting the extraordinary:

**community in the hands and hearts of common people, spirits lifted in the words and music of weekly worship,**

and nourishment in poured water and a baby’s laugh.

**A way is made through the wilderness of our souls; valleys lifted and mountains brought low, for Spirit to come alive within us again**

A voice assures us, “You are my beloved ones” and we are called to be a Christ community,

**proclaiming that now is the time of God’s favour.**

**Let us worship in the glory of God.**

Opening Prayer

**God of glory and majesty, bathe us in the bright fire of your transforming love. Gift us with Spirit, that we may live boldly each day as children of your realm. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #359 “He Came Singing Love”**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Statement of Purpose

The Sacrament of Baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God. By water and the Spirit, we are called, claimed, commissioned.

**We are called God’s own, welcomed as children of God.**

We are claimed by Christ, united with Christ, united with one another and the Christian community of every time and place.

**We are commissioned to Christ’s ministry of love, peace, and justice, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the Church in the world.**

Presentation

On behalf of the congregation of Portland United Church, I present **Sawyer Joy Milutin**, daughter of Shannon and Nick Milutin, god-daughter of Richie and Katie Mitchell, for initiation into the body of Christ through Baptism.

Profession of Faith and Vows

Do you believe in one God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer?

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

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ, do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?

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

Will you follow the way of Jesus Christ in both your private and public life?

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

Will you join with your sisters and brothers in this community of faith to celebrate God’s presence, live with respect in creation, and love and serve others?

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

Will you share your faith with Sawyer, growing with her in faith, hope and love?

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

\*Congregational Commitment

Let us pledge to **Sawyer** our support and care.

**As a baptized and baptizing people we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within this community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism. Amen.**

**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.**

Let us pray:

**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

**Sawyer**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Creator, the Son, the Redeemer, and the Spirit, the Sustainer. **Amen**

Marking with the Sign of The Cross

**Sawyer**, with the sign of the cross you become one with Christ, the Anointed One. **Amen**

Laying of Hands

**Sawyer**, the power of the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born of water and the Spirit you may be a faithful witness of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Presentation of Certificate

Congregational Welcome

**Into the household of faith we welcome you with joy and thanksgiving.**

### *The Word Transfigured*

Choral Prayer for Illumination #92, s. 1 & 4

Hebrew Scripture **Exodus 34:29-35**  
Psalm **99, page 819**  
Epistle **2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2**  
Gospel **Luke 9:28-43**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Ministry of Music

Sermon

### *Going Out To The World*

Offertory

\*Choral Dedication of the Offering #539 s.1

Prayer of Dedication

**We have been awakened to the glory of God shining around us in gifts both great and small. Thankful for God's faithful presence, we give this offering – a symbol of our faithfulness in return. May it bring healing where there is brokenness, comfort where there is chaos and justice wherever there is need. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

*Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Portugal, Spain, Italy, Malta*

\*Hymn #223 "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing"

Blessing

This season closes.

**Another begins with its own journey, leading to a cross, and through that cross to new life.**

But there is much we must encounter before we reach that empty tomb.

**We take this hope, birthed in the memory of God's tender, firm voice proclaiming that, wherever we are, we are in the presence of the Christ. Thanks be to God!**

Choral Response #93 s.4

Postlude

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The Scripture Reader today is **Barry Harbinson**.

The team of **Garnet Cress** is welcoming today.

Our Counters are the team of **Beth Leonard**.

*Next week: **Lorraine Stewart's** team is counting and **Peter Gaulton's** is welcoming.*

Scripture Readings for February 21 : Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91, Romans 10:8b-13 , Luke 4:1-13

The bulletin is dedicated  
in loving memory of  
Kay Hurley from daughters  
Joyce, Bernice and Betty

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Pancake Supper: Shrove Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at the church between 4:30 and 6:30 PM.**

pancakes hash browns, sausages, beans, tea, coffee, ginger bread and whipped cream

**Adults: \$7.00 children 12 and under: \$5.00**

Tickets: please contact the church office at 632-4030

**Please Note:** A Choir Gown Fund has been established.

**Portland United Church Volunteer Opportunities:** The important c to day work of the congregation of Portland United Church is done largely by volunteers. *The nominating committee is searching for volunteers to fill the following positions: Secretary of the Council Membership Committee, Youth-at-Large Committee, Member-at-Large and two Lay Representatives to Presbytery.* nformation about these positions are available in the office in A Guide To Our Council System; from current members holding the positions or from Paul Potter. **Potential volunteers** who have an interest in providing service for the church and congregation should **contact Paul Potter at 645-7235.**

*Annual Reports are ready: please pick up your copy in the Narthex. You have time to read through prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday February 28, directly following worship*



## THE CHURCH AT WORK

~ February 14~

Sunday – 14 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am	Worship, Sunday School, Nursery <b>Annual Reports:pick-up</b>
	1:15pm	World Wide Church of God
Mon. – 15 <sup>th</sup>	1:45pm	Jeanette Ball
	6:30- 9:00pm	Scouts
	7:00 pm	N/A New Beginnings Group
Tues. –16th	11:55 am	Chicken Noodle Soup Club
	<b>4:30-6:30pm</b>	<b>Shrove Pancake Supper</b>
	6:45pm	Jessie Langille
	6:30-8:30pm	Cubs
Wed. –17th	8:00 pm	A.A. Group
	9:00 am	Quilting
	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Ash Wed Lenten Service</b>
	11:55 am	Chicken Noodle Soup Club
	6:15pm	United Church Men
Thurs. – 18th	6:30-10:30pm	Venturers & Rovers
	6:30-7:30pm	Beavers
	7:00 pm	Bible Study Choir
	8:00 pm	AlAnon Group
Friday – 19th	6:15 pm	Badminton
	7:00 pm	N/A New Beginnings Group
Friday-Saturday		Venturers
Sunday – 21 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship, Sunday School, Nursery <b>Annual Meeting</b>

**One:** Hi. My name is Elizabeth. I'm 16 and I don't know where to turn. I'm pregnant. My boyfriend split when he found out. I told my parents, and they're worried about what the neighbours will say. They said I should go away until the baby is born and then give it up for adoption. I've been thinking about that, but I really want to keep my baby. I'm not dreaming, though; I know I can't take care of myself, let alone a baby. So much for my plans to go to university and become a nurse. I'm pretty confused and scared right now.

**Two:** Thank goodness for the Massey Centre in Toronto. It's been around for over a century, committed to helping young women learn the skills they need to raise healthy families. Massey Centre initiated good prenatal care for Elizabeth, arranging doctor's appointments and ensuring that she got proper nutrition and rest. The centre also helped Elizabeth emotionally, offering parenting classes and training in how to budget, apply for jobs, write a resumé, and run a household. The Massey Centre provided a place where Elizabeth could complete her education and work toward her dream of attending nursing school.

**One:** My son, Jeremy, is eight months old now. The people at Massey Centre have been lifesavers for both of us! They're helping me be the best mom I can be, and they have an excellent daycare where Jeremy stays while I go to class and work part-time. They stuck by me until I felt able to care for both Jeremy and myself. He's growing so fast and he's so healthy. We're doing fine!

**Two:** Massey Centre provides unwed moms with a good environment in which to raise healthy and happy children. The **Mission and Service Fund** supports Massey Centre. Your gift to **M&S** helps families like Elizabeth and Jeremy.

***We are a united church!*** This week, include in your prayers those in the United Church who work with young people: Sunday school teachers, youth and young adult leaders, camp staff and volunteers, and our many United Church partners who include young people in their ministry.

**Minute for Mission: Help for Families**