



# Almonte United Church

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**Sunday June 14, 2026 10:30 am**

## Sunday School Celebration Service

### **Piano Prelude:**

Graham - honouring Air... “Kites in the Sky”

Jamie - honouring Water... “Looking-Glass River”

Emmett - honouring Earth... “Land of the Silver Birch”

Ellie - honouring Fire... “Watchman’s Song”

### **Land Acknowledgement - Sunday School Teachers and Kids**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship**

One: Begin with a deep breath.

**All: (Breathe in and out)**

One: Blessed be this morning, gift of the great mystery, woven of Earth, Air, Fire and Water.

**All: I stand in the circle of life, a child of the elements.**

One: A guest upon this holy ground. Earth beneath me, steady and sure. Root my spirit in your deep knowing.

**All: May I walk today with steadiness and purpose, honouring the sacredness of all I touch.**

One: Air around me, whispering and wild: Fill my lungs with your living breath.

**All: May I speak words of truth and kindness, carried on the wings of grace.**

One: Fire within me, bright and bold: Kindle my courage and warm my heart.

**All: May I burn with compassion. And light a spark of hope wherever I go.**

One: Water within and beyond me, flowing and free: Wash me in your clarity.

**All: May I move through this day with ease, open to change and wonder.**

One: Earth, Air, Fire and Water - the elements that God has gifted to us - sacred kin of my being.

**All: Guide me, bless me, walk beside me.**

**Hymn: # 291, Voices United: All Things Bright and Beautiful**

## **Opening Prayer**

Let us pray...

**All: We thank you, God, for the gift of air –**

One:

For cool breezes and brisk winds that refresh us,

For blue skies and crystal clear nights,

For the smells of every season—summer and winter, spring and fall. Most of all, we thank you for the air that gives us life.

You offer your Spirit to us with every breath we take. May we protect this gift that gives us life.

**All: Thanks be for water**

One: That sustains the life of animals, fish, and plants, That cleans our bodies and blesses our souls. For the water of tears that wash away our grief, for the water of slides, lakes, pools, and oceans where we can play and have fun.

Thanks be for water.

Your water gives us new life.

May we treasure that gift and share it with others.

**All: Thank you for fire**

One: ...and the many ways we can use it, to cook our food,  
to sterilize and purify,  
to smelt ore and form metal,  
to warm our homes, and  
to make the most of the electricity we have.

You light our way and enlighten our minds. May we be open to the  
fire of your Spirit.

**All: Thank you for the ground beneath our feet,**

One: Your good earth that gives life to all.

In a mystery we don't understand,  
green plants spring forth from your darkness. Canyons and  
mountains, plains and deserts show us your infinite imagination.  
We thank you for this firm foundation  
on which to build our homes and our lives.  
May we always love this land as you love it.  
May we care for this good earth that gives us such good life.

**All: In Jesus' name we pray... AMEN**

**Choir Anthem: River Runs Free**

**Scripture Readings:**

**Earth - Isaiah 64:8**

**Air - John 3:8**

**Water - John 4:13-14**

**Fire - Exodus 3:2**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: More Voices #191, What Can I do?**

**Offering Prayer**

## An Invitation to Come Play

**Today we welcome you into our Sunday School way of worshipping - through play! Please join us outside (or in the Social Hall if raining) to learn about God's gifts of the elements and to experience Water, Earth, Air and Water in new and wondrous ways. You are invited to visit any and all of these Worship Centres:**

1. **Fire: Make a Suncatcher...** using beautiful spring flowers, create your own suncatcher to take home or to add to our church display
2. **Earth: Build a Landscape...** led by our youngest leaders, you are invited to join them in creating a 3-D landscape using natural materials ...**Work With Clay** ... try your hand at making a pot out of clay
3. **Water: Ice Inuksuit Challenge** ... using the provided ice blocks, try and build one or more of the Inuit rock structures on display and remember how we need to care for our Arctic ice and the climate in general (mitts provided!)
4. **Air: Giant Bubble Challenge...** watch the air in action as you create regular and giant bubbles that float up with your prayers and hopes for our world (weather permitting) **Paper Airplane Challenge...** using God's gifts of air and your creativity, how far will your plane fly and can it land in our "airport"?
5. **"It's Elementary, Dear AUC" Trivia Game:** ... our always popular trivia game is back with Bible facts and how the elements can be found throughout scripture and our world
6. **Indigenous Day of Prayer - Display and Bundle:** ... Indigenous Day of Prayer, the Sunday before National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21), is an opportunity to celebrate First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples' values, customs, languages, and culture. AUC Sunday School was invited to create a bundle by Melanie Francis (Dancing Fire Woman, Eagle Clan) that represents our year and who we are,, in the same way that Melanie created a bundle representing the work of SchoolBOX that our children and youth worked so hard to support;

browse through pictures from Grassy Narrows First Nations's school library that our congregation helped make possible through their generous donations; write a prayer for Indigenous People everywhere on the seeded paper provided that you can take to plant or that we will do so on your behalf.

7. **The Elemental Cafe:** ... create your own flavoured water with gifts from the earth, sip on some sun tea, enjoy air-popped corn, and S'More inspired cookies

Following our worship station time, the church bells will ring four times for each of the elements, indicating it is time to move and form a circle in front of the Pavilion.

## Dedication of the Pavilion

### Benediction

(Please lift this prayer heavenward by blowing bubbles following the Benediction)



## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### NEW AUC DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS...

AUC is creating a church directory of the congregation and pictures of special events. This is a valuable tool in getting to know the congregation and what we do. If you would like your picture and contact information included, the photo sessions will be held from October 21 through to October 24<sup>th</sup>. **More info and details will follow.** For those wanting to see a sample of a directory, there is a completed one entitled "Edith Rankin Memorial United Church" , on the desk outside of the office.

**Next Sunday: The Blessing of the Animals Service. Please ensure your pets are leashed or in carriers. Its sure to be fun!**

# WHAT'S ON AT AUC THIS WEEK

## OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm**

### Monday to Friday

8:30 Almonte Co-operative Nursery School

### Monday, June 15

5:30 Taekwon Do

### Tuesday, June 16

10:00 Mom and Baby Physio Workout

2:00 Almonte Homeschool Choir

### Wednesday, June 17

12:45 Carebridge Pilates

5:30 Taekwon Do

7:00 AUC Choir Practice

### Thursday, June 18

10:00 Mom and Baby Physio Workout

11:30 Vicki Lafleur Exercise

### Friday, June 19

9:30 Lisa Kmiel Yoga

### Saturday, June 20

9:00 Royal Conservatory of Music Exams

### Sunday, June 21

10:30 Sunday Worship: **The Blessing of the Animals Service**

Sunday School

Youth Group

7:00 Lindsey Lambden Yoga



