

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of understanding the cultural context of the research. It highlights the need for researchers to be sensitive to the values and beliefs of the communities they are studying. This is particularly important in the field of education, where cultural differences can significantly impact learning outcomes. The paper then moves on to discuss the challenges of conducting research in diverse cultural settings. It notes that researchers often face difficulties in establishing rapport with participants and in interpreting their responses. To address these challenges, the paper suggests several strategies, including the use of local researchers and the development of culturally appropriate research instruments. The final part of the paper discusses the importance of ethical considerations in cross-cultural research. It emphasizes the need for researchers to obtain informed consent from participants and to ensure that the research is conducted in a way that respects the dignity and rights of all individuals.

# ALMONTE UNITED CHURCH

106 Elgin Street, P.O Box 190 Almonte, Ontario KOA 1A0

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Sunday August 16, 2026 10:30 am

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## Prelude

**Land Acknowledgement:** We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

## The Call to Worship:

**Leader:** The voice of God calls us to gather, inviting us to come exactly as we are.

**All:** We bring our joys, our heavy burdens, and our busy minds.

**Leader:** Leave behind the distractions of the week and look to the Creator of peace.

**All:** Our hope is in the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

**Leader:** Come, let us worship our God together!

**All:** Amen

## Welcome and the Announcements

**Opening Hymn:** 595 (VU) "We Are Pilgrims"

## The Gathering Prayer: (unison)

Loving and Eternal God, we gather here as your people and give you praise for this day. In each opening bud and blossoming tree, you invite us to discover your Presence and to find ourselves as part of all life. Send your Spirit in and among us now so we may be nourished with ancient

**words of wisdom. We pray in the name of our Risen Christ. Amen.**

## **The Children's Time**

## **The Choir**

## **The Mission Moment**

### **The Scripture Lesson: Matthew 15:(10–20), 21–28 (New International Version)**

<sup>10</sup> Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. <sup>11</sup> What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them."

<sup>12</sup> Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?"

<sup>13</sup> He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. <sup>14</sup> Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."

<sup>15</sup> Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."

<sup>16</sup> "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. <sup>17</sup> "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. <sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile them."

<sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

<sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

<sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

<sup>26</sup> He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

<sup>27</sup> “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

This is God’s word spoken to our hearts. Amen.

## **Meditation**

**Hymn:** 288 (VU) “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**Doxology:** The offering is collected-

\*Sung Response: MV#191

***“What can I do? What can I bring?***

***What can I say? What can I sing?***

***I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.***

***I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share” (x2)***

**Dedication of Offerings**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn:** 641 (VU) “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

**Commissioning and Benediction**

## **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

### **Thinking About Joining Our Church Family?**

Have you found a home here at Almonte United? We’d love to make it official!

On **September 20**, we’ll be welcoming new members into our community. Becoming a member isn’t about signing on to a strict list of rules or reciting an exact creed. It’s simply about

saying "yes" to a shared faith in God, committing to walk together in Christian service, and joining a community that's open, inclusive, and glad to have you exactly as you are. If you've been wondering whether this might be for you, let's talk about it! Call/text/email or drop by the office  
~ Heather

### **Almonte United Church - Report on Givings to July 31, 2026**

| <b><i>Budget Revenue</i></b>                            | <b>Actual</b>   | <b>Budgeted Amount</b> | <b>2025</b>     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Givings to General Fund<br>(envelope, e-transfer & PAR) | \$61,026        | \$69,128               | \$58,767        |
| Fund raising                                            | \$4,972         | \$3,733                | \$5,110         |
| Rentals                                                 | \$22,077        | \$21,433               | \$22,286        |
| <b>Total</b>                                            | <b>\$88,076</b> | <b>\$94,295</b>        | <b>\$86,163</b> |

| <b><i>Outreach Givings to<br/>end of February</i></b> | <b>2026</b>     | <b>2025</b>     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mission and Service                                   | \$10,494        | \$10,484        |
| Camp Lauren                                           | \$355           | \$835           |
| Local Foodbank                                        | \$5             | \$1,000         |
| Likulezi                                              | \$2,043         | \$2,941         |
| <b>Total Outreach Givings</b>                         | <b>\$12,897</b> | <b>\$15,259</b> |

**Reverend Heather is on holidays from  
August 10<sup>th</sup> until the 30<sup>th</sup> inclusively,  
In case of a pastoral emergency  
please contact Rev. Heather Kinkaid at  
613-619-5966 or [grovesprings@sympatico.ca](mailto:grovesprings@sympatico.ca)**



**Greeters Needed**- We're looking for a few more people to join the Greeter Schedule. It's an easy yet important job. Duties including greeting folks at the door as they arrive and then passing the offering plate. Please let Rev. Heather know if this is something you can help out with.

## WHAT'S ON AT AUC THIS WEEK

### OFFICE HOURS:

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

#### Monday, August 17

10:00 Lindsay Lambden Yoga

5:30 Taekwon Do

#### Tuesday, August 18

10:00 Lindsay Lambden Yoga

#### Wednesday, August 19

5:30 Taekwon Do

#### Thursday, August 20

6:00 Lindsay Lambden Yoga

#### Friday, August 21

#### Saturday, August 22

#### Sunday, August 23

10:30 Sunday Worship

Sunday School

Youth Group

7:00 Lindsey Lambden Yoga





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**While Rev. Heather is on holidays, for emergencies  
please contact Rev. Heather Kinkaid at 613-619-5966  
or [grovesprings@sympatico.ca](mailto:grovesprings@sympatico.ca)**

|                     |                                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Minister:           | Rev. Heather Davies                           |
| Guest Ministry:     | Rev. Brenda Reinkeluers                       |
| Choir Director:     | Neil Milnes                                   |
| Custodian:          | Kim Julian                                    |
| Office:             | Virginia Atkinson                             |
| Counter this month: | Ron Williamson &<br>David Fewtrell            |
| Greeter:            | Bernadette &<br>Richard vanDuyvendyk          |
| Greeter next week:  | Marina Johnston &<br>Kathy Stewart            |
| Reader:             | John Peters                                   |
| Reader next week:   | Jill Moxley                                   |
| Sunday School:      | Margie Graff                                  |
| Sound System        | Bob Lesser &<br>Laurie Blackstock<br>John Day |



**We have an automated external defibrillator.  
It can be found on the table outside the office door.**

