

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
JULY 28, 2024

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church
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WELCOME to our service this morning!

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GATHER TOGETHER BEFORE GOD
on traditional territory of Treaty Six Peoples and of the Métis Nation

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Rejoice, folks, Jesus is in our midst.

Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.

Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.

**Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food
that does not satisfy.**

Sing for joy, people of God; God gathers up the pieces of our lives,
that nothing may be lost.

Thanks be to God!

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GATHERING PRAYER

~Written by Christine Longhurst. Posted on re:worship. Adapted. Used with permission.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

~ Written by Laura Turnbull. Gathering Pentecost 1 2024, page 42. Used with permission.

HYMN: VU #374 "Come and Find the Quiet Centre"

Verse 1

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed;
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Verse 2: Silence is a friend we claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,
Making space without our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
Raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

Verse 3: In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

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JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD FOR OUR LIVES

GIFT OF MUSIC: "Will You Walk With Me" Words & Music by Isla Grant

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #224 "Sing a Happy Hallelujah"

Verse 1

Sing a happy hallelujah, sing it out with heart and style,
we're the echo of God's laughter, we're the image of God's smile.

REFRAIN:

Hallelujah, all creation, hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation, hallelujah everyone!

Verse 2: We're the proof of God's good humour, we're the twinkle in God's eye,
made to shine, reflect the glory, given light and space to fly.

REFRAIN

Verse 3: Sarah laughed at God's good timing, Mary sang and David danced,
Jesus smiled and hugged the children, so is life for us enhanced.

REFRAIN

Verse 4: Every day sing hallelujah! We are loved, though so absurd,
human, foolish, chosen people, God still takes us at our word!

REFRAIN

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

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GOSPEL LESSON: **John 6:1–21**

REFLECTION: “Is There Really Enough?” by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra

HYMN: VU #467 “One Bread, One Body”

REFRAIN:

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing , which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.**

Verse 1

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.

REFRAIN

Verse 2

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.

REFRAIN

Verse 3

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all.

REFRAIN

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PRAYER: *(One voice interspersed with a call and response)*

Call and Response: *In Your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

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THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION TO GIVE

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OFFERTORY: MV #171 “Christ Has No Body Now but Yours” (Refrain, Vs. 4, Refrain)

REFRAIN: Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.

Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.

Verse 4: Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need:

As Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,

With ev'ry gift a benediction, be to the people of God.

REFRAIN

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DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)

Merciful God, the gifts we bring are so small in comparison to the vast needs in our world—nowhere near enough to save the thousands dying of starvation all around the world, or even to meet the needs of the hungry and homeless in our city. Yet we have brought what we can.

As You once multiplied the five small loaves and two fish, multiply these gifts as well, so that, once again, the hungry may receive all they need, and more. Amen.

~ Written by Christine Longhurst. Posted on re:worship. Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD
CLOSING HYMN: MV #172 “God Says”**Verse 1**

God says, “Be still so you may hear the words I whisper in your ear.
If you will listen, you will know I’m with you always where you go.”

Verse 2: God says, “Look up and see the prize I’ve placed here right before your eyes.
Find beauty in the things of earth, a cause for wonder and rebirth.”

Verse 3: God says, “Come here! I need your voice. Please teach my people to rejoice.
In who you are, in what you do, your life will show my love for you.”

Verse 4: God says, “Reach out! The world’s in need and wants a word, a song, a deed.
I send you forth to speak, to sing, to act for Christ in everything.”

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CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US**COMMISSIONING**

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BENEDICTION**SUNG RESPONSE: VU # 420 “Go to the World” Verse 4**

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you ‘til the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry “Amen!” Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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MUSICAL POSTLUDE

