

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH

AUGUST 04, 2024

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church

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WELCOME to our service this morning!

Join **Zoom Meeting** via computer (with password) **DO NOT POST ON WEB OR FACEBOOK**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364019239?pwd=TIEyd2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlp4Y3Q4UT09>

Zoom teleconference Link info: Meeting ID: 833 6401 9239 Password: 4745

Via phone: +1 587 328 1099 Canada - dial in . +1 587 328 1099 , , 83364019239 - direct

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*)

Out of a world of cut-throat competition,
of winners-and-losers,
and too many left behind
we come together.

The world's ways are not our ways.

The world's ways are not Christ's ways.

Out of a world of hatred, violence,
individualism, and life-taking power
we gather as *Koinonia*, as God's people.

**God's ways are inclusive, expansive,
and life-giving for all peoples.**

Come and worship the One whose love knows no limits!

Swim and splash in the cleansing waters of divine community!

Resurrect your spirits and souls in worship of the One!

Praise be to the Everlasting One!

~ Written by Tim Graves, and posted on LiturgyBits. <https://liturgybits.wordpress.com> Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

~ From *Spiritual Hunger and Thirst for God*, written by the Rev. Bonnie Tarwater. Posted on the United Church of Christ website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/> Used with permission.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

HYMN: VU #401 “Worship the Lord”

REFRAIN:

**Worship the Lord (worship the Lord), worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands) in devotion to God who is one!**

Verse 1: Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing, and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness, worship and work must be one!

REFRAIN

Verse 2: Praying and training that we be a blessing, and by our handiwork daily confessing;
we are committed to serving humanity worship and work must be one!

REFRAIN

Verse 3: Called to be partners with God in creation, honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice, worship and work must be one!

REFRAIN

Verse 4: Bringing the bread and the wine to the table, asking that we may be led and enabled,
truly united to build new communities, worship and work must be one!

REFRAIN

Verse 5: Now in response to the life you are giving, help us, Creator, to offer our living,
seeking a just and a healing society, worship and work must be one!

REFRAIN

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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

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #664 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Verse 1: What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Verse 2: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Verse 3: Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
 Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?
 Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new courage there.

Words: Joseph Medlicott Scriven ca. 1855; Music: Charles Crozat Converse 1868. Public Domain

COMMEMORATION OF EMANCIPATION DAY

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

Together we say: **Help us love and respect all people, not only with our words but also with our actions and our lives.**

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

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GOSPEL LESSON: **John 6:24–35**

REFLECTION: **“Bread for Body and Soul” by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra**

GIFT OF MUSIC - “*Al Shlosha D'varim*” (Hebrew)

Translation of the Hebrew: “The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace.”
Hebrew Text (Mishnah); Music: Allan E. Naplan

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

~ Words: Adapted by Stephen C. Warner, 2003, from St. Teresa of Avila; Music: Rick Gunn, 2006; Words copyright © 2003 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)

**Generous God,
through your Son, Jesus Christ,
you have shown us what it means to love.
And you call us to follow Your example—
to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.
Continue to write your law of love on our hearts.
Give us an unwavering passion for justice,
and a tenacious faith that will not rest
until the hungry are fed,
the oppressed find relief,
and the outsider finds a welcome. Amen.**

~ Written by Christine Longhurst, in *Hunger for Justice: World Food Day 2016*, posted on the Canadian Foodgrains Bank website. Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN: VU #638 "God, Take My Hand"

Verse 1

God, take my hand and lead me upon life's way,
direct, protect, and feed me from day to day.
Without your grace and favour I go astray;
so take my hand, O Saviour, and lead the way.

Verse 2: God, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
for you, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,
for when your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Verse 3: God, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that you will strengthen my steps toward home,
and nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So, take my hand and lead me unto the end.

Words: Julie von Hausmann, ca. 1862, trans. v. 1 Herman Bruckner, vss. 2,3: Rudolph A. John; Music Friedrich Silcher 1842. Public Domain.

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we come together, we respectfully acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory of Alberta, Regions 2, 3 and 4 within the historical Northwest Métis Homeland. .
We honour all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We recognize that many have come throughout the years to make this place their home. As treaty People, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, we share the responsibility of finding authentic ways to ensure that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 6 is honoured and respected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AUGUST 04, 2024

NEW

WED AUG 7 WHISPERING WATERS CARE HOME SERVICE: You are welcome to attend our Communion Worship Service at Whispering Waters Wed. Aug 7 at 7:15 pm. Any available choir folk who would like to come help with the hymns are encouraged to come! It’s always great to visit with our friends who live there!

REMINDERS

COMMUNITY NEWS: AHS MAMMOGRAPHY CLINIC: Mobile Mammography Screening is coming to the Westview Health Centre in Stony Plain **August 22 to 27**. Appointments are required – please call to book: 1-800-667-0604 (toll free). This is a free service recommended for women over 40. There is more information on the table outside the sanctuary.

MEWASSIN CAMPING WEEKEND FRI. AUG 30 TO MON. SEPT 2 (YES, THE LONG WEEKEND!): There will be no church at Mewassin that weekend (Sunday, September 1, 2024). We will have a pot-luck supper on Saturday evening followed by a small church service with Deborah. This all takes place at Entwistle RV Campground. All are welcome. You can camp, or just come out for the day (any/all of the days). We hope you all can join us at some point. The main event will be the Saturday evening pot-luck and service. More details to come in August.

PASSING ON YOUR CONCERNS: If you know of anyone who would like a visit or needs a card, please call the Church Office (780 963-4745) or email stonyuc@telus.net.

