

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH  
MEWASSIN UNITED CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2022  
TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION/ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY**

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church  
Mailing Address: Box 3196, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1C2  
Phone: 780 963-4745 Email: stonyuc@telus.net  
**WELCOME to our service this morning!**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TOGETHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE: HYMN: MV #21 "Open Our Hearts, Open Our Minds" (2x)**

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

#### **OPENING PRAYER (Responsive):**

**One:** Creator, in love and through love, you have called all things into being. We thank you for mother earth, our home. We thank you for the heavens that watch over us and the starlight that warms and guides us. We thank you for all the plants—for those that are medicine, for those that nourish us, for those that express your delight through their beauty and diversity. We thank you for all of our fellow creatures; may we share this earth with them in respect, with reverence. We thank you for soil, water, fire, air; for forests, plains, and mountains, deserts and tundra and oceans. And now, when so much of the world is threatened with destruction, help us to walk in humility with gratitude among all these sacred gifts from you.

We thank you for being a God of liberation, for you are ever seeking to bring us into the joy of your salvation; into a just, equitable, and holistic celebration of life.

We thank you for your compassion, which holds each and every one of us. We thank you for coming to us as Jesus, our teacher, brother, and friend—for dying on the cross and breaking the power of death in order to bring us back into harmony with you and all of Creation.

**All:** **Creator, thank you for your truth and wisdom, and for inviting us to travel the healing path with you; we offer you our hearts and minds so that we might**

**embody your grace and share your blessings with all who live upon the earth.  
Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: MV #135 “Called By Earth and Sky”**

**Refrain:**

**Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.**

**This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, called by earth and sky.**

**Verse 1:** Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean’s dream,  
water of healing, rivers of rain, the wash of love again.

**Refrain**

**Verse 2:** Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind born and free.  
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place, our gathering and our grace.

**Refrain**

**Verse 3:** Precious these mountains, ancient sands; vast fragile land.  
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong, Creation’s faithful song.

**Refrain**

**Verse 4:** Precious the fire that lights our way, bright dawning day.  
Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and justice one.

**Refrain**

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**ACKNOWLEDGING OUR KINSHIP (Responsive):**

**One:** Creator, we come together today as diverse, united peoples to give thanks to you,  
Maker of Heaven and Earth.

**All: We come to listen, to learn, to sing and pray, to consider our place in the order  
of things you have created and are creating.**

**One:** It is right and good to give thanks for the land on which we stand, for this is wisdom  
we learn from Indigenous peoples of this land—that we are one with the earth, its  
waters, air, animals, and plants.

**All: Such wisdom, our interdependence with all life, is something too easy to forget  
in our busy lives! It is a gift and a challenge to us to remember.**

**One:** And so we take time to acknowledge the lands on which we now live.

**All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our  
families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came,  
they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands,  
already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.**

One: O God, as we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways.

**All: For we are all kin in Christ, “All My Relations,” with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants. Amen.**

## **WHY DO WE WEAR ORANGE SHIRTS?**

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **WHAT IS NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION?**

#### **HYMN: VU #509 “I, The Lord of Sea and Sky”**

**Verse 1:** I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.**

**I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**Verse 2:** I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain,

I have wept for love of them; they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

**Refrain**

**Verse 3:** I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,

I will set a feast for them; my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

**Refrain**

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#### **LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (responsive)**

And so may the light of Christ be in you.

**...and also in you.**

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

### **THEME TIME**

#### **THE GIFT OF MUSIC (SP) Jubilant Singers “For Beauty of Meadows”**

Words: Walter H. Farquharson; Music: Traditional Irish Melody, setting by Hal H. Hopson.

## SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTIONS

### **HYMN: MV #30 It's a Song of Praise to the Maker**

#### **Verse 1**

It's a song of praise to the Maker, the thrush sings high in the tree.  
It's a song of praise to the Maker, the gray whale sings in the sea,

**Refrain: And by the Spirit you and I can join our voice to the holy cry  
And sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.**

**Verse 2:** It's a call of life to the Giver when waves and waterfalls roar.  
It's a call of life to the Giver when high tides break on the shore,

#### **Refrain**

**Verse 3:** It's a hymn of love to the Lover; the bumblebees hum along.  
It's a hymn of love to the Lover; the summer breeze joins the song,

#### **Refrain**

**Verse 4:** It's the chorus of all creation; it's sung by all living things.  
It's the chorus of all creation; a song the universe sings,

#### **Refrain**

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### **DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Unison)**

**Creator God, we ask you to bless these gifts, which have been given in love. May our gifts be used in many ways to build good relations. May your will be done through these gifts and through us and in spite of ourselves. In Jesus' name. Amen**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR RECONCILIATION

### **HYMN: MV #154 "Deep in Our Hearts"**

#### **Verse 1**

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common story, telling creation that we are one.

**Verse 2:** Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common goal;  
Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message, Justice and peace in harmony.

**Verse 3:** Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common current, Flowing to freedom like a stream.

**Verse 4:** Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common story, Telling Creation that we are one.

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**Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

**We are, all of us, Treaty People: original inhabitants and those who came later; inheritors of a diverse history, dwellers in a common land, travellers toward a better day. We have known friendship and animosity, cooperation and oppression, blessing and pain. And now we embrace the sacred covenant that heralds a new beginning: that softens the heart and dismantles the prisons of the present and the past. We joyfully claim our rights and responsibilities as Treaty People. Amen.**  
—*Treaty People's Creed (2011), The All My Relations Network of Saskatchewan Conference*

**CARRYING CHRIST'S LIGHT WITH US**

**BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

**(Mewassin)THREE FOLD AMEN**

**(SP) POSTLUDE: MV #3 River**

**Verse 1:** River, rush-a-down to the ocean blue, River from a mountain high.  
River, as you do what rivers do, River, draw the Spirit nigh.

**Verse 2:** Spirit, come-a-down to the riverside, Spirit, spark of wondrous thought.  
Spirit, I am free for you to guide, Spirit, pray that I be taught!

**Verse 3:** Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r, Water, strength and life you give.  
Water, as I travel with each hour, Water, help my body live.

**Verse 4:** River, flow-a-down where you ran before, River, source of clearer view.  
River, as I walk your rocky shore, River, see my journey through.  
See my journey through, See my journey through, See my journey through.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 25, 2022**

**NEW**

**2023 CANADIAN CHURCH CALENDARS ARE HERE:** If you would like a Church Calendar, the cost is \$6.00

**STONY PLAIN COFFEE SUNDAY OCT 2:** Stony Plain will have coffee time after the service Oct 2, which is World Wide Communion Sunday.

**KATHY JACKSON RETIREMENT:** Kathy Jackson is retiring from Northern Spirit Regional Council at the end of September! As office coordinator and support for pastoral relations, communications, and so much more, she has held so many relationships and areas of ministry in Alberta Northwest Conference, Northern Spirit Regional Council, and far beyond. Please add your memories, stories, or words of blessing (or even advice) to the online book below. <https://padlet.com/jgraham160/mmsb24iewrztvvaqy> **Good old-fashioned paper cards** are welcome too: Please send these attention Kathy Jackson, Kirk United Church Centre, 13535 122 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5L 2V7.

### **REMINDERS**

**TUESDAY, SEPT 27 STONY PLAIN COUNCIL:** Stony Plain United Church Council will meet Tues. Sept 27 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Please submit committee reports in advance, if possible.

**LUNCH SUNDAY OCTOBER 16:** We would like to have Lunch Sundays again, starting with October 16. Let the Office know if you can help.

**MEWASSIN:** No service Sept 18, but will meet again Sept 25. Service starts at 9 am.

**MINISTER COVERAGE:** If you need to speak to a Minister, please contact Reverend Sharon McRann at 780-823-9794.

### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

<b>Ukulele Practice:</b>	Wednesdays, 6:15 pm
<b>Choir Practice:</b>	Wednesdays, 7:15 pm
<b>Card Recreators:</b>	Thursday, 10:00 am