

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MEWASSIN UNITED CHURCH
NOVEMBER 20, 2022**

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!

STONY PLAIN: PLEASE STAY FOR LUNCH TODAY!
MEWASSIN: PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEE, TREATS AND A VISIT TODAY!

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOGETHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE: MV 140 "As Long as We Follow" vs 1 & 2

Verse 1

As long as we follow in the way that God is leading, we know God's reign will surely come.

Verse 2: As long as we hope there is a future for creation, a future for the universe.

Refrain: We know this, we know this. Yes, God's reign will surely come.

We know this, we know this. Yes, God's reign will surely come.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**God of the morning and the evening, as we rush about our days,
often dismissive of your signs, give us pause.**

**As we orient ourselves to your direction, let us become aware of your silence,
let us notice your beauty, so that we may move in time with you again.**

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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OPENING HYMN: VU 213 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Verse 1

Rejoice the Lord is King! Your risen Lord adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Verse 2: Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our sins, he took his seat above.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Verse 3: God's kingdom cannot fail; Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Verse 4: Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ, the judge, shall come
to glorify the saints for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Words: Charles Wesley 1746, alt. Music: John Darwall 1770. Public Domain

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (responsive)

The Christ candle is lit. The light flickers and flames, vulnerable and small.

We come seeking the light of Christ, yet we too often falter on the path. We come stumbling and tripping, reaching out for a steadying grip. As we reach, we touch one another, discovering strength in one another.

The Spirit whispers to our hearts, to our longing, to our seeking, encouraging, inspiring, daring, uniting, and equipping.

The Christ candle is lit and our spirits respond with similar tiny flickers. Reaching out for signposts to guide us, we gain a perspective of all those flickers among us, the light of Christ in our midst.

... And so may the light of Christ shine in and through you.

...and also through you.

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BRINGING ALL OF WHO WE ARE

PRAYER FOR GRACE: (unison)

God of Grace, stir within us a desire to hear the familiar story with new comprehension. Though the details now are commonplace, let them bring fresh insights. If the message you have for us is unique, still make it accessible.

Inspire us so that we are tempted to sing, smile, nod, and dance with delight.

Let this reflection be filled with your enlivening Spirit. Amen.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

In life and in death, we belong to God.

In sin and in perfection, we belong to God.

Receive the Good News:

you belong to God at all times.

Be assured God will never abandon or forsake you.

Thanks be to God!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AND LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD FOR OUR LIVES

THEME TIME

(SP) THE GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir: "Crown Him Lord of All"

Words by Gerald Flemming (chorus) and Edward Perronet (verses); Music by Gerald Flemming

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE: SP Reader: Mable Hunter

Matthew 19:13-15

Jeremiah 23:1-6

REFLECTION: The Story Most Precious, Sweetest that Ever was Heard.

HYMN: "When Mothers of Salem"

Verse 1: When mothers of Salem their children brought to Jesus,
The stern disciples drove them back and bade to them depart;
But Jesus saw them ere they fled, and sweetly smiled, and kindly said,
"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

Verse 2: "For I will receive them and fold them in my bosom;
I'll be a shepherd to these lambs, O drive them not away;
For, if their hearts to Me they give, they shall with Me in glory live:
Suffer little children to come unto Me."

Words: William M. Hutchings; Music: Methfessel's Songbook, 1818. Public Domain.

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

MINUTE FOR MISSION

DEDICATION OF GIFTS: (unison)

Here we present our gifts, O God: symbols of our very selves given to you, signs of our willingness to follow the path of vulnerability, concrete expressions of our internal discipleship. Bless them for your mission in the world, just as you bless us, we pray. Amen.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

AND LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

HERITAGE HYMN: VU 343 I Love to Tell the Story

Verse 1

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

**Refrain: I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

Verse 2: I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

Refrain

Verse 3: I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

Refrain

Words: Katherine Hankey 1866; Music: William G. Fischer 1869. Public Domain

CARRYING CHRIST'S LIGHT WITH US

The Christ candle is lit. The light flickers and flames, vulnerable and small. And yet, when we blow
it out, the flame of the spirit remains flickering in our hearts. - *Extinguish candle*

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION (responsive)

Let us go forth

with the song of peace in our mouth.

Let us go forth with joy in our hearts.

Let us go forth with love overflowing.

Let us go, as people of hope,

into a world that longs for hope to come.

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MEW: Three-Fold Amen

SP: Grace (to the tune of, "Let There be Peace on Earth")

Let there be Food for All and let it be shared by me!

Let there be peace and joy and everywhere harmony

With all 'round God's table, nourished all are we.

Let us live in communion as God would have us be

Let there be food for all and let it be shared by me!

ANNOUNCEMENTS NOVEMBER 20, 2022

LOTS OF NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS THIS WEEK!

BOTH CONGREGATIONS SUNDAY, NOV 20: Please stay after the Service today – Coffee and
treats at Mewassin; Lunch at Stony.

UKRAINE EMERGENCY FUND: Stony Plain will be writing a cheque in December to send off
collections to the Ukraine Emergency Fund. To date we have submitted \$2,875.00 and are
currently holding \$300. **If anyone wants to make a donation to go in with this submission,**

would you please turn it in by November 30th through the collection plate, E-Transfer, or drop a cheque off with Sue. Please reference "Ukraine Emergency Fund" to make sure it gets coded correctly.

MEN'S CLUB NEWS: Meeting is **Monday, Nov 21** at 5:30 pm at the Church. We will go for dinner, then have our meeting at 7:00 pm. All men are welcome!
We will be serving **Breakfast on Sunday, Nov 27 at 9 am**

STONY PLAIN COUNCIL TUES. NOV 22: Council will meet at the Church on Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

MEWASSIN CHRISTMAS BRUNCH SUNDAY DEC. 4: Please bring a pot-luck item and plan on staying after the service for a meal and visit.

SAT. DEC 3 AT 2 pm: Additional Cantata Practice. Choir please attend if you are able!

WHITE GIFT/WINTER WARMTH SUNDAYS DEC 4 & DEC 11: Both congregations are welcoming donations which will go to Parenting for the Future. **Mewassin is collecting socks** - men's, women's or children's. **Stony is collecting Mitts and Toques** for all ages. Mewassin Sunday School will also be giving Gift Bags to Parenting for the Future on Dec. 11. Collection dates are Dec 4 and Dec 11.

VOCAL ALCHEMY CONCERT NOV 29: This concert will be at the Winspear. For information, please go on line to <https://www.vocalalchemy.com/>

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: Mewassin 4:30 pm Sunday School will be presenting the Christmas Eve Service at Mewassin, at 4:30 pm. It will be a special service incorporating a mini-concert within the service. **NOTE: If you can help out with the singing at Mewassin, please let Terry Blois or Sandra McNab know.**
Stony Plain's Christmas Eve service is at 7:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S: There will be **no services** at either church **Christmas Day**. Mewassin will not have a service Jan 1, but are welcome to come to Stony at 10:30.

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Sat. Dec 3 – Christmas Tea & Market from 1 – 4 pm at Strathearn United Church, 850 95 Ave. NW Edmonton.

Tues. Dec 6 – Women's Christmas Event 6:30 -8:30 pm, Entwistle Community Church. There are posters for both events on the Bulletin Board.

REMINDERS

PURDY'S CHOCOLATES! Place Orders & Pay By: **Tuesday, November 29, 2022.**

ADVENT DINNER & CHOIR CANTATA DECEMBER 11: Helpers and donations needed! Please sign up – sheets are on the table in the foyer. Thank-you!

WORSHIP LEADERS: THANK-You! to all who continue to lead worship :

Nov 20 Terry Blois/Neville Smith

Nov 27

Lesley Janke

Dec 4 Sharon McRann

Dec 11

Sheila Christensen

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

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukulele Practice: Wednesdays, 6:15 pm
Cantata Practice: Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:00 pm
'Regular' Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 8:00 to 9:00 pm
Card Recreators: Thursday, 10:00 am

MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, Nov 20 Mewassin – Coffee Sunday; Stony Plain Lunch Sunday
Monday, Nov 21 Men's Club Meeting – Dinner 5:30, Business Meeting 7 pm
Tuesday, Nov 22 Stony Plain Council, 7 pm to 8:30 pm at the Church
Sunday, Nov 27 Stony – Breakfast at 9 am, prepared by the Men's Club
Until Tues. Nov 29 Order your Purdy's Chocolates!
Until Wed Nov 30 Donate to the Ukraine Emergency Fund
Sat Dec 3 2 pm Choir Cantata Practice
Sun Dec 4 and Dec 11 White Gift Sunday – donate Socks (Mew); Mitts, Hats (SP)
Sun Dec 4 Mewassin Christmas Brunch at Mewassin after Church
Sunday, Dec. 11 Advent Dinner and Choir Cantata
Sat. Dec 24 Christmas Eve Mewassin Service 4:30 pm; Stony Plain 7:00 pm
Sun Dec 25 **No Services**
Sun Jan 1, 2023 Stony Plain Service 10:30; **Mewassin No Service**