

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MAY 19, 2024
PENTECOST

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church
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Reverend Deborah M. Hoekstra Cell: 780 983-2148
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)*

The Spirit is at work,

bringing us together in joy, comforting us in sorrow.

The Spirit is discovered,

helping those bereaved, listening to those who are troubled.

The Spirit is with any who are downhearted,

the Spirit is inspiring, the Spirit is eternal.

Come, let us worship in the presence of the Spirit.

~ David Sparks, Pentecost/2024 (Year B) Prayers for Worship (adapted)

GATHERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Sacred breath, move through this room. Unlock a song within your people.

Breathe into us your hopes and dreams for a world filled with justice, love, and peace.

Amen.

~ written by Tim Graves, and posted on LiturgyBits. <https://liturgybits.wordpress.com>

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE *(Responsive)*

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world,

may its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.

- Gord Waldie

HYMN: VU #377 "Holy Spirit, Hear Us"

Verse 1

Holy Spirit, hear us, help us while we sing,
breathe into the music of the praise we bring.

Verse 2: Holy Spirit, shine now on the book we read,
light its holy pages with the truth we need.

Verse 3: Holy Spirit, prompt us when we bow to pray,
speak within and teach us what we ought to say.

Verse 4: Holy Spirit, help us daily by your might,
what is wrong to conquer, and to choose the right.

Words: William H. Parker 1880, alt. Music: James Frederick Swift 1881. Public Domain

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: Choir "Let it Rain"

Words by Joseph M. Martin; Music by David Angerman

THEME TIME

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

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS**Acts 2:1-21**

The coming of the Holy Spirit

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus will send the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth

GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir “Song of Pentecost”

Words and Music by Joel Raney

REFLECTION: “The Power of the Holy Spirit” by Rev. Sharon McRann**HYMN: MV #144 “Like a Healing Stream”****Verse 1**

Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
 God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,
 promising revival and rebirth ... like a healing stream

Verse 2:

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
 God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
 yearning for an end to want and need ... like a gentle rain.

Verse 3:

Like a river strong with a restless current, Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
 God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
 calling for an end to hate and war ... like a river strong.

Verse 4:

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons, Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
 God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:
 God will always challenge and provide! Like a mighty sea,
 like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

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THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION**INVITATION TO GIVE****OFFERTORY HYMN: VU #552 “For Food in a World”**

For food in a world where many walk in hunger,
 for friends in a world where many walk alone,
 for faith in a world where many walk in fear, we give you thanks, O God.

Words: German: Manfred Wester 1984, Trans. Unknown. Music: Composer unknown, arr. Ruth Watson Henderson 1995 Words © 1985 Gisela Wester. Used by permission. Arrangement copyright © 1995 Ruth Watson Henderson

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)

With open hearts and open spirits, we come to you, God most holy. With all that we have and all that we are, we bring our offerings and we lift our voices in prayer and celebration that you are our all. May your Spirit fill our words. May your Spirit fill our actions. May your Spirit fill our lives. In Christ’s name, we ask these things. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #382 “Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

Verse 1

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Verse 2: Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine, to do and to endure.

Verse 3: Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Verse 4: Breathe on me, breath of God: so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Words: Edwin Hatch 1878. Music: Robert Jackson 1888. Public Domain

CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Christ sends us forth: Keep my commandments, abide in my love.

We will go forth in peace and justice!

Love one another, go forth to serve:

We will go forth in love!

Share in my mission, bear fruit that will last:

We will go forth as your friends, rejoicing!

Let us go forth in peace to witness to our community and world, that Christ is alive!

— from Friends of God: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain.

SENDING HYMN::

MV #23 “Come O Holy Spirit ” vs. 1

Verse 1

Come, O Holy Spirit, set the Church on fire; strike it as the lightning hits a posing spire.
Burn away the structures and consume the sham of our holy systems: Come, in Jesus’ name!

REFRAIN: Come, come, come, in Jesus’ name! Take our hearts by storm.

All the world lies open: Pentecost is now!

I said a-come, come, come, in Jesus’ name! Take our hearts by storm.

All the world lies open: Pentecost is now! **Amen!**

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MEWASSIN: “Threefold Amen”

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 MAY 19, 2024

MEN'S CLUB: There will be no Men's Club meetings or Breakfasts until the fall. Thanks to everyone who supported us throughout the year!

REMINDERS

REV. DEBORAH AWAY: Rev. Deborah will be away from Monday May 13 to Monday May 27 on Study Leave and Vacation. Pulpit Supply will be Rev. Sharon McRann on Sunday, May 19 and Terry Blois on Sunday, May 26. Thanks very much to both ladies for preparing and leading these services!. In case of emergency requiring a Minister during Deborah's absence, Pastor. Anne Telford will be available May 13 to 20 and Rev. Bill Doyle from May 21 to 27. Please call Sue at the office for contact information.

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE. New subscriptions and renewals are due for this award winning magazine, the only one of its kind left in Canada. The group rate is \$30 per year. Please renew or purchase your subscription by contacting the church office, **by Sunday May 26, 2024**; cash or cheque. Cheques should be made out to Stony Plain United Church with Broadview written in the memo line. Sample copies of Broadview are available at the church.

PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS: It has been such a difficult task to decide from all the fabulous photos. The criteria was that no family could win two prizes and tried to select various types of pictures. So here goes....(Drum roll)....

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. White Pass Train | 2.: Swallowtail Butterfly on Wood |
| 3. Weasel in the Wood Pile | 4. Niagara Falls and River Scene |
| 5. Aurora Borealis | 6.: Rock Creek. |

Congratulations to all the winners! Please go to the Office to pick up your prize. Thanks very much to everyone who sent in entries. We aren't planning to have any more photo contests in the near future, but you are welcome to send in photos which we can use in the power point or bulletins.

PENTECOST – SUNDAY MAY 19! The choir will be in Mewassin in the morning of Pentecost, May 19, (service starts at 9 am). to help celebrate. Then we will be back in time for the 10:30 am service in Stony Plain.

MAY 21 CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEETING: The Congregational Care Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 21 at 10:30 am at the Church.

UCW JUNE LUNCHEON FRIDAY JUNE 7: June's meeting will be a lunch at 11:30 AM on Friday June 7 (**note change of day**) at the Tea House at the Stony Plain Museum. Notify the Church Office of your intention to attend **no later than June 6** to reserve your place at the table. Following lunch, the ladies will have the option to visit the Women's Pavilion. All ladies are welcome!

SUNDAY JUNE 9 NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN: There will be NO SERVICE at Mewassin Sunday June 9. Folks are warmly invited to Devon United's "Sunday in the Park" picnic service at 10 am. They are also very welcome to attend the informal service at 10:30 am at Stony Plain United.

SUNDAY JUNE 9 PICNIC SERVICE AT DEVON: Devon United Church is hosting a picnic service at 10:00 am on June 9, 2024, in Devon at the Lyons' park. Stony Plain and Mewassin United Churches are invited. There will be an informal service in Stony Plain on that day, for those who will not be at the picnic. More details will follow later.

STONY PLAIN STREET MARKET JUNE 15 FROM 9 am to 3pm: We will be participating in the Stony Plain Street Market again this year, with our table in the same location as last year – by the Town Hall Main Entrance. We will be accepting donations of gently used household items (**please no furniture or electronics**), but would like to offer more baking and snacks this year. Please drop off items at the church during office hours (or we can possibly arrange for pick up on Wednesdays). You can also contribute by baking, donating groceries or grocery money, sorting, cleaning and pricing donated goods and taking a shift at our table and/or cleaning up on Market Day. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. Please tell your friends and plan to attend!

BIBLE STUDY: Currently Bible Study is on sabbatical. Another 3 week study will commence on May 30th, 2024 at 7 p.m. via Zoom (same link). If you are interested in joining please contact the church office for the Zoom link and study materials closer to the start date.

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.

COMMUNITY AND UNITED CHURCH EVENTS

THURSDAY MAY 23 & FRIDAY MAY 24: ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Spruce Grove Community and Social Development, 414 King Street, Spruce Grove, AB. Information/Registration: sprucegrove.org/CSDPrograms or call 780 962-7618.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukulele Group	Wednesdays, 6:15 pm
Choir	Wednesdays, 7 pm
Card Recreators:	Thursdays, 10 am
Bible Study:	Restart May 30: Thursdays 7 pm on Zoom

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Until Sun May 26	Renew or purchase your Broadview Subscription
Tues. May 21	10:30 am Congregational Care Meeting
Thurs. May 30	7 pm Bible Study resumes on Zoom
Friday June 7	UCW: 11:30 am Lunch at the Tea House (Pioneer Museum)
Sun. June 9	MEWASSIN – NO SERVICE (Picnic service at Devon United)
Sun. June 9	DEVON – Picnic service 10 am – our churches are invited!
Sat. June 15	SP Street Market 9 am – 3 pm – SPUC will have a table!