STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MAY 03, 2026

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!

Thank-you to our Presiders this morning.

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*
We gather in the presence of the One who breathes life into all of Creation.
We sing God's praises, breathing in God's glory.
All are welcome in the presence of the Most High.
We come, seeking the goodness in the hands of God.
We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.
Together we reflect the fullness of God's love; together we bring God's love into the world.
Let us worship the Living God whose breath gives us life.

~ Written by Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe, based on Psalm 104. Printed in Mental Health and Wellness: Worship Resources for All. Licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial Share Alike (by-nc-sa) Licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/ca Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

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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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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

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CONCERNS AND JOYS

PRAYERS OF CONCERNS AND JOYS

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: "God Is!"**
Words: Bert Stratton; Music: Michael Barrett

THEME TIME

HYMN: TLUS #23 "For Everyone Born"
Verse 1:
For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,

REFRAIN: And God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and Joy!

Verse 2: For all who share life, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for all who share life, a system that's fair,
REFRAIN

Verse 3: For those we neglect, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for those we neglect, the right to belong,

REFRAIN: And God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and Joy!

Verse 4: For all who have breath, a place at the table, a covenant shared, a welcoming space, a rainbow of race and gender and colour, for all who have breath, the chalice of grace,

REFRAIN: And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and Joy!

Verse 5: For you and for me, a place at the table, though wounded and sore, with need to forgive, in anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy for you and for me, a new way to live,
REFRAIN

Verse 6: For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free.
REFRAIN

~ Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1998, Alt. Music: Brian Mann, 2006. Words © 1998 Hope Publishing Company. Music © 2006 Brian Mann, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBG Musik. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(inspired by Philemon 4-7)*

~ From a collection of prayers posted on the Worship@North website. https://northchurchindy.wordpress.com/ Used with permission.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

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From Acts:	**Acts 7:55-60**	**The stoning of Stephen**
From the Gospels:	**John 14:1-14**	**Jesus the Way, the Truth, the life**

REFLECTION: "The Cost of Discipleship" by Rev. Deborah Hoekstra *(Recorded)*

HYMN: VU #628 "Come, My Way, My Truth"
Verse 1:
Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath,
such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death.

Verse 2: Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast,
such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.

Verse 3: Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move,
such a love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert ca. 1633; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams 1911, adapt. E Harold Geer 1956. Music copyright © 1911 Stainer & Bell Ltd. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-718663.

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY: Healthy Food, Healthy Relationships

INVITATION TO GIVE: ~ Written by Rev. Dr. Alydia Smith. Printed in Mental Health and Wellness: Worship Resources for All. Licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial Share Alike (by-nc-sa) Licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/ca. Used with permission.

OFFERTORY: VU #537 "Your Work, O God Needs Many Hands" vs. 1
Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.
- Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer 1927, alt. Music Neil Dougall ca.1831. Public Domain

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Unison)
Generous God,
here are our gifts of time; here are our gifts of talents; here are our gifts of money; building stones for Your Kingdom, awaiting shaping and placing within Your loving purpose. Amen.
~ Written by Rev Dr Derek Browning, and posted on the Church of Scotland's Starters for Sunday website. http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/ Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: VU #120 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"
Verse 1: O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

Verse 2: O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin.

Verse 3: O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak,
and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.

Verse 4: O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.
~ Words: John Ernest Bode ca. 1866, alt. Music: James William Elliott 1874. Public Domain.

CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #974 "Hallelujah Amen"
Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen! Sing 3x
~ Words and music by Jim Strathdee 1985. Copyright © 1985 Desert Flower Music. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS May 03, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

SUNDAY, MAY 10: MOTHER'S DAY BBQ: (Stony Plain) On Sunday, May 10 after church, the Men's Club will be hosting their annual Mother's Day BBQ lunch. All are welcome!

SUNDAY, MAY 10: MEWASSIN ONLY SUNDAY: Rev Deborah will be staying at Mewassin after their service next Sunday to enjoy fellowship with their congregation. We will have a recording of Deborah's Reflection

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 7:00 PM VOCAL COLLECTIVE CONCERT: Please join Vocal Collective for their spring concert, "Soundscapes", on Friday, May 8 at 7pm in the Parkland Hall at the Heritage Pavilion in Stony Plain. This celebration explores choral art and its magical and expressive sounds and messages, and features the world premiere of a poem, set to music by Edmonton composer Margaret King. You may also recognize some familiar faces from the SP Community of Faith! Tickets are available at the door, with a suggested donation of $20 (Cash only).

REMINDERS

WED. MAY 6: UCW: The UCW will meet on Wednesday, May 6 at 1:30 pm.

WED. MAY 6: 7:15 PM WHISPERING WATERS: Please join us for our Monthly Communion Service at Whispering Waters at 7:15. The Choir will attend, then come back to the church for the remainder of the practice. This is a great chance to visit with our friends there!

SATURDAY, MAY 9 "SPRING PRAISE HANDBELL CONCERT" (ST. ANDREW'S) The Parkland Bells Choir from St. Andrew's UC in Spruce Grove is having concerts at 3 pm and 7 pm on Sat. May 9 at St. Andrew's. Admission is free, but a ticket is required due to limited seating. You can get your ticket by calling St. Andrew's Church Office 780 962-0488. Free will offerings gratefully accepted.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21 SP "FATHER'S DAY SUNDAE SUNDAY": Instead of Lunch Sunday in June, our Sunday School will be hosting a "Sundae Sunday". If you have any questions, or want to help, please call the church office..

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

REV DEBORAH'S SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

Sun. May 03, 2026 Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC
Sun. May 10, 2026 Rev. Deborah in person at MEWASSIN ONLY
Sun. May 17, 2026 Rev. Deborah in person at MEW and SP
Sun. May 24, 2026 Pentecost: Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC
Sun. May 31, 2026 Rev. Deborah in person at MEW and SP

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: Wednesdays: Ukes 6:00, Choir 7:00 pm
Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed. May 6	**1:30 pm UCW Meeting**
Wed. May 6	**7:15 pm Whispering Waters Communion Service**
Fri. May 8	**7:00 pm Vocal Collective Concert at Parkland Hall, Heritage Pavillion**
Sat. May 9	**St. Andrew's, SG Parkland Bells "Spring Praise Handbell Concert" 3 pm and 7 pm. Free tickets available from St. Andrew's**
Sun. May 10	**Rev. Deborah will be in person at Mewassin only**
Sun. May 10	**SP After Church BBQ Lunch (Men's Club)**
Sun. June 16	**SP "Father's Day Sundae Sunday"**

FROM OTHER UNITED CHURCHES AND THE COMMUNITY

(Posters on the Bulletin Board and on the table in the Narthex)

Spirit West UC "Sounds of Spring" Concert Sat. May 8, 7 pm: Featuring vocals, piano, flute, ukulele, harp and harp ensemble. Free will offerings will be gratefully received to help feed the homeless in the West End of Edmonton.

Town of Stony Plain Community and Social Development: Several programs are being offered in the next couple of months, including Mental Health Week Events, Sketch Book Club, Women's Support Group, and many more.