

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MAY 24, 2026 PENTECOST SUNDAY**

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!

Join **Zoom Meeting** via computer (with password) **DO NOT POST ON WEB OR FACEBOOK**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364019239?pwd=TlEyd2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlI4Y3Q4UT09>
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

PLEASE STAY FOR SUNDAYS AFTER CHURCH TODAY!

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

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES:
Acts 2:1-4 The Coming of the Holy Spirit

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

God who moved over the deep in a holy breath,

Come to us this day - Pentecost.

Arrive in the wind.

God who spoke in a bush that was burned but not consumed,

Come to us this day - Pentecost.

Arrive in a holy flame.

God who is present each time we gather at the table,

Come to us this day - Pentecost.

Arrive in water and replenishment, conversation and connection.

Pour out your Holy Spirit.

Set us aflame, but do not consume us.

Fill us with holy wonder.

We have arrived this day - Pentecost.

We have come to worship.

Written by Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, pastor at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Manhattan, Kansas. **Adapted.** Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

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

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GATHERING HYMN: MV #150 “Spirit God, Be Our Breath”

Verse 1

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song. Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn ... Spirit God, be our song.

Verse 2

Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear. Comfort us. When we know you are near
we grow more certain, our vision is clear. Patient God, calm our fear.

Verse 3

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer. Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
we seek your guidance through friendship and care. Loving God, be our prayer.

Verse 4

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song. Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn ... Spirit God, be our song.

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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Written by Laura J. Turnbull. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2026 (*Year A*) page 27. Used with permission.

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

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

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HYMN: VU #455 “This Child of Ours” (replace “it”, “its” with “him”, “his” throughout)

Verse 1:

This child of ours, this miracle. You have a dream and plan for him:

You wash him clean, You cradle him, You bless him, and You call him yours:

this child of ours, this child of Yours.

Verse 2:

This child of Yours, this miracle reborn of Water and the Word;

the Book of Life records his name. You smile and angels celebrate:

this child of Yours, this child of ours.

Verse 3:

This child of ours, this miracle whom Christ would die for, we may love,
and train and raise, and teach and praise, and watch the Spirit mold a life:
this child of ours, this child of Yours.

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(This concludes our Celebration of Baptism)

GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir: "Holy Spirit, Hope and Healer"

Words: Mary Kay Beall; Music: Welsh folk tune arr. by John Carter

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

FROM THE EPISTLES: 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 One Spirit, Many Gifts

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 7:37-39 Rivers of Living Water

REFLECTION: "The Church is a Wondrous Thing" by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra
(Recorded)

PRAYER FOR JUSTICE (Responsive)

God of the Holy Spirit,

You are the restless breath of love that sweeps through the world.

You move where you will, breaking down barriers,
stirring hearts to change, making all things possible.

Inspire each one of us to hunger and thirst for justice!

Come, Spirit of God, sweep through our world bringing great change.

May the bounty of your goodness be shared more justly,

So, all may share in the rich blessings of your creation.

And, for us, bring transformation in our praying and living,

so that we may act justly, love mercy,

and walk humbly with you all the days of our lives. Amen.

Posted on the Third Space website. <http://third-space.org.uk/blog> Used with permission.

PENTECOST HYMN: (Seated) MV #23 "Come, O Holy Spirit"**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!

Verse 2: Blow away the cobwebs of our stubborn past.
 Come, send flying from us myths unfit to last.
 Wind of change, refresh us and disturb our calm;
 Teach us what true love is, take our hearts by storm

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!

Verse 3: Free us from the babble of our Babel mind;
 Spark in us a language all can understand.
 Lighten then our darkness, come and show us how
 All the world lies open: Pentecost is now!

LAST 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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THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION
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INVITATION TO GIVE

Posted on <https://binarybreakingworship.com/2020/10/06> Adapted. Used with permission.

OFFERTORY: Doxology (Tune VU #541)

Praise God, the Source of life and birth;
Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame;
All glory, honour to God's name!

Posted on <https://www.hillsidedmedford.org/transforming-love/doxology> Written by Ruth Duck. Used with permission.

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Responsive)

Holy One,
 you have given yourself to us in Creator, in Christ, in the Spirit.

We now give back to you:

this money that seems so little;
this worship that seems so small;
these words that never quite get it right.

Receive what we offer
 and transform it by the power of your Spirit into:

enough money,
sufficient praise,
worthy words
for proclaiming and enacting

your peace, justice, and love in the world. Amen.

Written by Joanna Harader and posted on **Spacious Faith**. <https://spaciousfaith.com/> Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: VU #380 "She Flies On" (Ref, vs. 1, 2; Ref. vs. 3,4; Ref. vs 5; Ref)

REFRAIN:

**She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

Verse 1

Silent waters rocking on the morning of her birth, like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth, like a mother breathing life into her child

Verse 2

Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight
when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.
Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts found new delight, and then down the ages still she flew on..

REFRAIN

Verse 3

To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came, a whisper softly calling in the dark,
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would never end.
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.

Verse 4

Flying to the river, she waited circling high above the child now grown so full of grace.
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky,
and she carried him away in her embrace.

REFRAIN

Verse 5

Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world, after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled,
bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on.

REFRAIN

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CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

COMMISSIONING

Written by Robin Wardlaw. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2026 (Year A) page 29.
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BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #454 "May God Who Creates You"

**May God who creates you, give you light;
 may God who sustains you, make you wise;
 may God who protects you, give you joy;
 may God who surrounds you, give you peace.**

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MUSICAL POSTLUDE

A United Church of Canada Historical Moment

May 24, 2026: "In September 2025, McDougall United Church, the historical downtown Edmonton building with over 115 years of ministry legacy was sold to Central Baptist Church. The vision is for the McDougall building to continue to be a shared space for worship, musical + cultural endeavors. The Garneau and McDougall communities of faith have integrated into a single community and continue to worship at the McDougall building." - taken from McDougall + Central Church pages

ANNOUNCEMENTS MAY 24, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

TUESDAY JUNE 16 SP COUNCIL MEETING: The Stony Plain Council will meet on Tuesday, June 16 at 7:00 pm in the Board Room or on Zoom.

SP BREAKFAST – MEN’S CLUB: There will be no Sunday Morning Breakfast until the fall. Thanks to the Men’s club for all the delicious breakfasts this year!

REMINDERS

SUNDAY, MAY 24 CELEBRATE PENTECOST! Our congregations are encouraged to wear Red, Orange or Yellow to celebrate Pentecost on Sunday May 24. SP Choir will go out to Mewassin and sing at their service. Mewassin Sunday School will be serving special treats! Stony Plain Sunday School will be hosting the “Sundae Sunday” to celebrate fathers after church.

SUNDAY, MAY 31 MEWASSIN: We will be having a planning meeting for our 100th anniversary (August 15, 2026) after church on Sun. May 31.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21 DEVON PICNIC AND SERVICE: Our congregations are invited to join Devon United Church for their Sunday service in the Park on June 21! The service will begin at 10:00 a.m. with games and then picnic lunch to follow. A reminder to bring lawn chairs is on the invitation. We have lots of kites for the children to decorate and fly after the service, and the parachute games were a hit last year, so that is on the games agenda again 😊 Potluck items are welcome if people wish: salads or dessert/fruit or finger foods. There is a sign-up sheet available – please add your name if you’d like to attend or talk to Sandra at Mewassin, or Terry or Lesley at Stony – we need to RSVP with our numbers of attendees by June 7.

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 24, 2026	<u>Pentecost:</u> Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC
Sun. May 31, 2026	<u>Trinity Sunday:</u> Rev. Deborah in person at MEW and SP
Sun. June 7, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC
Sun. June 14, 2026	<u>Communion</u> Rev. Deborah in person at MEW and SP
Sun. June 21, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC for their picnic service. Mew & SP are invited. More info re services at Mew & SP to follow.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

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

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun. May 24	PENTECOST: All are encouraged to wear red, orange or yellow SP "Sundae Sunday" to celebrate fathers; Mew: Treats after the service; SP Choir going to Mewassin for their service
Sun. May 31	MEW: Planning meeting after Church for 100 th Anniversary
Sun. June 21	Devon Picnic and Service – SP and MEW are invited!
Tues. June 16	SP 7 pm Council Meeting