

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
JUNE 07, 2026
PRIDE 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**
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=TlEydzc2aXUra1dDcHdvNlpl4Y3Q4UT09>
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

*Thank-you to our Presiders this morning.
Thanks to Rev. Deborah for preparing the service for us.*

Celebrating National Indigenous History Month

INDIGENOUS ORIGINS

Athabasca (town): Cree for "where there are reeds"

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE GATHER TOGETHER BEFORE GOD

on traditional territory of Treaty Six Peoples and of the Métis Nation

INTRODUCTION TO PRIDE SUNDAY: A Moment for Pride

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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (*Responsive*)

The candle is lit,
and we honour our diversity;
young and old,
downhearted and joyful,
queer and straight.
a rainbow of genders,
each of us differently abled,
strong in faith and searching for a faith.

The candle is lit for us all,
And in the light of Christ our service begins.

~ Written by David Sparks. **Gathering Pentecost 1 2026 (Year A)**, page 31. Used with permission.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

The words God speaks are the life and sustenance of all that exists.

The life Jesus gives is the re-creation and renewed birth
of all that is broken and worn.

The Spirit's stirring in our souls is the inspiration
for creativity, compassion, joy, and community.

**Life-giving, life-restoring, life-fulfilling God;
may our whole lives be worship.**

**ALL: In all things, may we seek to connect with
and to reflect your love and your hope.**

~ Posted on **The Minor Keys**. <http://theminorkeys.blogspot.ca/> Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

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GATHERING HYMN: VU #390 "How Great the Mystery of Faith"

Verse 1

How great the mystery of faith, how deep the purposes of God,
In birth and ageing, life and death, unveiled, yet never understood!

Verse 2: Attracted by life's deepest claim we wait, assembled in this place,
With needs and hopes we cannot name, a thirst for healing, truth, and grace.

Verse 3: The best that we can do and say, the utmost care of skill and art,
Are sweepers of the Spirit's way to reach the depths of every heart.

Verse 4: Come, walk among us, Holy Friend, as all are gathered and prepared,
That scattered lives may meet and mend through open Word and table shared.

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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.

GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir "My Savior Leadeth Me"

Words: Nancy Price and Don Besig. Music: Don Besig

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #400 (sung 2x) "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Lord, listen to your children praying,
 Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
 Lord, listen to your children praying,
 send us love, send us power, send us grace!

REPEAT

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LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD FOR OUR LIVES**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

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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.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 33 VU #760

Refrain: A new song to our God proclaim, from age to age rejoice!

Shout to God for joy, you righteous! Praise is fitting from loyal hearts.

Give thanks to God with the harp; sing praise to God with the ten-stringed lute.

Sing a new song to God; play skilfully and with shouts of joy.

For the word of God is true; God's every deed is faithful.

Refrain: A new song to our God proclaim, from age to age rejoice!

You love what is right and just; the earth is full of your constant love.

By your word the heavens were made, the countless stars by the breath of your mouth.

You gathered the waters of the sea as in a goatskin;

You stored the deep in cisterns.

Let all the earth fear you, O God,

Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe.

For you spoke and it came to be; you commanded and it stood firm.

You foil the plans of the nations, and frustrate the schemes of the peoples.

Your counsel, O God, shall stand forever, the purposes of your heart through all generations.

Happy the nation who has you as God.

Happy the people you choose as your own.

Our heart rejoices in you, O God, because our hope is in your holy name.

Let your steadfast love be upon us as we put our trust in you.

Refrain: A new song to our God proclaim, from age to age rejoice!

Melody from A Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems. Dublin 1749 Public Domain

**REFLECTION: “Everyone is Chosen” by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra
(Recorded)**

PRAYER FOR PRIDE MONTH

Written by Alydia Smith for Pride month. Posted on <https://united-church.ca/prayers> Used with permission.

HYMN: TLUS #30 “We’re the Light of All the World (We are a Rainbow)”

Verse 1

We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill,
we're a candle on a stand proclaiming light,
we will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel any more,
we will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.

**REFRAIN: We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace
for the flood of tears will finally cease to be.
come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,
paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.**

Verse 2: We're a coat of many colours, sewn from many different threads,
cov'ring all in warmth, in welcome and in grace,
God said "Let there be light", created every varied shade,
in the rainbow each of us can find a place.

REFRAIN

Verse 3: We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,
we are peace in a world that's torn apart,
we are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,
we are love that blooms and grows in every heart.

REFRAIN

Verse 4: When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone,
for our God will be with us on the way,
here we are, side by side, we won't be frightened any more,
as the mourning night of tears breaks into day.

LAST REFRAIN

**We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace
for the flood of tears will finally cease to be.
come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,
paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.
Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.**

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MISSION AND SERVICE STORY

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION TO GIVE

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OFFERTORY: Doxology (Tune VU #541)

**Praise God, whose image we all bear;
Praise Christ, whose mercy we all share;
Praise Spirit, making justice grow—
One God from whom all blessings flow!**

Posted on <https://www.hillsidemedford.org/transforming-love/doxology> Written by Mary Luti. Used with permission.

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)

**We offer our gifts, given from your abundance
that they may be used to proclaim your love
and to bring healing and hope to all who are in need. Amen**

~ Posted on <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/> Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: MV #209 “Go Make a Difference”

REFRAIN:

**Go make a diff'rence. We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence. We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

Verse 1: We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

REFRAIN

Verse 2: We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope; we are the voice of peace.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

REFRAIN

Verse 3: So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

REFRAIN

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CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

COMMISSIONING

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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

YOUR OFFERING: Monetary gifts (cash or cheque) may be placed in one of the boxes next to the doors in the sanctuary; dropped off at the church during office hours; mailed to Stony Plain United Church, Box 3196, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1Y4; set up through PAR (pre-authorized remittance); or, by e-transfer to stewards@stonyplainunitedchurch.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS JUNE 07, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

CHOIR: There will be no Choir practices after June 10. We will resume Wed. Sept. 2 or 9. Anyone who would like to do "Special Music" during the summer is encouraged to contact the Church Office. Thanks to all who have participated in our Music Ministry this year!

MEWASSIN SUNDAY JUNE 21: *There will be no service at Mewassin Sun. June 21.* You can attend the Picnic Service in Devon or the service in Stony Plain.

MEWASSIN SUMMER BREAK: There will be no services at Mewassin from **July 5 to August 2**, inclusive. Regular services resume Sun. August 9.

REMINDERS

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH: An information board, featuring Local Placenames with their Indigenous origins, will be displayed in the Narthex throughout the month of June to celebrate National Indigenous History Month. Every Sunday over the next few weeks there will be one or two Alberta placenames with their meanings and/or related stories included in the bulletin. Special thanks to St. Andrew's United Church for creating the info board and giving it to our church!

SUNDAY JUNE 7: June 7 is Pride Sunday. Please wear rainbow colours.

UCW MEETING WED JUNE 10: The UCW has changed their regular meeting date to the **second Wednesday of the month**. Thus, we will meet next on June 10 at Rotary Park for our "picnic in the park". Bring your bag lunch, beverage, lawn chair, sun hat etc. Arrive at 11:30 AM to secure a good location. If the weather doesn't cooperate, the picnic will be in the church.

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.

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. 10:30 am service at Stony Plain; no service at Mewassin.

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. 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. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN. Reg. 10:30 am service at SP.
Sun. June 28, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at MEW and SP
Sun. July 5, 2026	Rev. Deborah on Vacation. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: Wednesdays: Ukes 6:00, Choir 7:00 pm No Choir after June 10. Will resume Sept 2 or 9.

Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed June 10 11:30 am UCW "Picnic in the Park" (Rotary Park)
 Tues. June 16 SP 7 pm Council Meeting
 Sun. June 21 Devon Picnic and Service – SP and MEW are invited!
NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN