

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
JULY 05, 2026
SIXTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

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=TEYdZ2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlI4Y3Q4UT09>
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, Rev Sharon McRann,
for preparing the service and leading us in Worship today
while Rev. Deborah is on vacation..***

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

GATHERING PRAYER (Responsive)

Come to us, Holy God, as we gather before you;

encircle us with your love.

Bless us with your sustaining presence;

surround us with your grace.

Draw us 'round your living Word,

and bind us to one another as disciples of Christ,

whose Spirit is in your name.

Amen.

- Rod Sykes/Celebrate God's Presence pg. 26

GATHERING HYMN: VU #633 "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

Verse 1

Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.

The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.

Verse 2: Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors, whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking the road where faith is found.

Verse 3: Divine Eternal Lover, you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

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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.

- David Sparks, 2026. Gathering Pentecost 1, Year A

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

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #509 "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

Verse 1

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

Verse 2

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

REFRAIN

Verse 3: I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

**REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

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A READING FROM ROMANS:

Romans 7:15-25a I do not do the good I want to do.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 My yoke is easy; my burden is light.

REFLECTION: “Saving Grace” by Rev. Sharon McRann

HYMN: MV #138 “My Love Colours Outside the Lines”

Verse 1

My love colours outside the lines, exploring paths that few could ever find;
And takes me into places where I’ve never been before, and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

Verse 2

My Lord colours outside the lines, turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
And takes me into places where I’ve never been before and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

Bridge: We’ll never walk on water if we’re not prepared to drown,
Body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we’ll never move the gravestones if we’re not prepared to die,
And realize there are worlds outside the lines.

Verse 3

My soul longs to colour outside the lines, tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I’ve never been before,
Throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

Bridge: We’ll never walk on water if we’re not prepared to drown,
Body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we’ll never move the gravestones if we’re not prepared to die,
And realize there are worlds outside the lines.

Verse 4: My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
Tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before,
Throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

Words and Music: Gordon Light, 1995: arr. Andrew Donaldson. Words and music copyright © 1995 Common Cup Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION TO GIVE (Responsive)

God is the giver of all good things,
the one who fashioned each of us with unique gifts
that together make the Body of Christ whole.

**In gratitude for all we have received,
we offer our lives back to God — we share our time, our skills, our money
and in so doing, we say “yes” to God’s invitation
to join in Her Kin(g)dom building work here on earth.**

- 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 (*Unison*)

**All-embracing God, we praise you for the blessings of love and care that we have received.
You do a new thing in each of us. Your Spirit enables us to do more than we can possibly
imagine. So as we offer our gifts, we ask that you bless them in Jesus’ name, that others may
understand and believe. Amen.**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: MV 216 “Wherever You May Go”

REFRAIN:

**Wherever you may go, I will follow, and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow, for I would be faithful, loyal and true.**

Verse 1: Say the word and I will stay, I will never go away,
we will travel side by side and God’s love will be our guide.

REFRAIN

Verse 2: From beginning to the end I will always be your friend,
when you need me, I’ll be there, you can trust my faithful care.

REFRAIN

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CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

COMMISSIONING (Responsive)

As we go from this place of worship, let us be prepared. Get ready. Be open to dream dreams and experience visions of what God would have us be doing in this congregation and as The United Church of Canada. Prepare yourself. Get ready. Be open. Don't be afraid.

God is working with us and among us. And we are blessed!

- Susan Lukey, High River U.C., High River - adapted

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.

~ Words and Music: Louise Skibsted 1994 Copyright © 1994 Louise Skibsted . All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

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. If you need more information, or an envelope number, please contact Lloyd Doige at 780 975-6021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS JULY 05, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

THANK-YOU! As you know, Stony Plain United ran the "Bistro Café" on Canada Day, July 1, in conjunction with the car show. A huge "Thank-you" to all those who helped with that. A very busy day and great Community Outreach!

SAT. AUG 15, 2026 MEWASSIN 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: You are joyfully invited to join us in celebrating **100 years** of Ministry at Mewassin United Church on Saturday, August 15 starting at 1 pm. There will be a short service at 1 pm followed by Pig Roast and Brisket with all the trimmings and Games for the kids. Free will offering gratefully accepted. **Please RSVP to ldonner@cruzinternet.com 780 499-1998 by July 15** so we know how much food to order! This is a perfect time to connect with our Church Family, friends and community members as we come together to celebrate and to honour God's faithfulness over the years.

REV. DEBORAH ON VACATION: Rev. Deborah will be away until Wed. July 15. Please call the Church Office if you urgently need a Minister.

REMINDERS

SINGERS WELCOME: Our choir is on summer break, but anyone who would like to help lead the singing during the church services over the summer is welcome to come up to the Choir Loft.

MEWASSIN CAMPING WEEKEND AUG 28 – 30: Camping weekend at Entwistle RV Campground is happening from Friday, Aug. 28 to Sunday Aug. 30. Everyone is welcome – either to come and camp for the weekend or come for a visit. There will be a **service & pot-luck supper on Saturday**. Watch for more information via e-mail closer to the date. There is no service at Mewassin on Aug. 30

MEWASSIN BOTTLE DRIVE SAT. SEPT 26: The bottle drive is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 26/26. So, if you've got bottles, we hope you can save them until then. Sunday School appreciates our wonderful congregations support.

M & P ANNOUNCEMENT: We are looking for a new Church Administrator to fill this position. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested please contact Allan Scherlie for more information. Cell 780 984-5657 Home 780 892 3259

[Click for Position Description.](#)

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

MEWASSIN SUMMER SERVICES SCHEDULE

July 5 to Aug 2 inclusive: **No Services** (Summer Break);
 Sun. Aug 9 **Regular Service;**
 Sat. Aug 15: **100th Anniversary Service;**
 Sun. Aug 16 **No Service;**
 Sun. Aug 23 **Regular (Communion) Service;**
 Aug 30 **No Service** (Camping Weekend)

REV DEBORAH'S SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

Sun. July 5, 2026	Rev. Deborah on Vacation. Pulpit Supply Rev. Sharon McRann NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN
Sun. July 12, 2026	Rev. Deborah on Vacation. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN
Sun. July 19, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN
Sun. July 26, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at SP NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN
Sun. Aug. 2, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: No practices until Sept 2 or 9 unless otherwise notified
 Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

July 5 to Aug 2 inclusive – No Services at Mewassin (Summer Break)
 Sat. Aug. 15 Mewassin 100th Anniversary Service
 Sun. Aug 16 **NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN**
 Fri. Aug 28 to Sun. Aug 30 Mewassin Camp out at Entwistle RV Campground
 Sun. Aug. 30 **NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN**