

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
AUGUST 09, 2026
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER 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!

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)

Holy God of wind and fire;

Dance through this room today.

Holy God of earthquakes and illness;

Share our tears of sadness and pain.

Holy God of creation and new beginnings;

Show us again your vision of healing and wholeness.

Written by Katherine Hawker (1995), and posted on <http://liturgyoutside.net> Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER *From 1 Kings 19: 8-15*

Written by Rev. Heather A. Moody. Posted on <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/> Used with permission.

GATHERING HYMN: VU #409 “Morning Has Broken”

Verse 1

Morning has broken like the first morning,

blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Verse 2: Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,

sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Verse 3: Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning

born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning,

God's recreation of the new day!

Words: Eleanor Farjean 1931; Music: Gaelic melody, harm. Alec Wyton Words used by permission of David Higham Associates. All rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**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: MV #92 "Like a Rock" (sing twice)**

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.

Like the starry night sky God is over our head.

Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.

Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

REPEAT

Words by Keri K. Wehlander, 1998. Adapted to music: Linnea Good, 1999. Words and music copyright © 1999 Borealis Music. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Posted on <https://reformedworship.org/> Used with permission.

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.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Romans 10:5-15

Salvation Is for All

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:22

Jesus Walks Across Stormy Seas

REFLECTION

"Stepping Out Into the Unknown"

by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra

HYMN: (Seated) VU #562 "Jesus Calls Us"**Verse 1**

Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me."

Verse 2: Long ago apostles heard it by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.

Verse 3: Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."

Verse 4: In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Verse 5: Jesus calls us: by your mercies, Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander 1852; Music: William Herbert Jude 1984 Public Domain

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY: Doxology (Tune VU #541)
Praise God, the source of breath and birth,
who formed us from the dust of earth,
and made us kin in unity
to love and set each other free.

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

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)

As we present our offerings today, we are reminded of your great love for us. Your love knows no bounds and is beyond measure. Help us to reflect your love in all that we do, including our giving.

May these gifts be used to spread your love to others, bringing hope and healing to a world in need. Thank you for your love that never fails us. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

SENDING HYMN: VU #567 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Verse 1

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Verse 2: Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Verse 3: Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Verse 4: Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Verse 5: Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Words: The Iona Community 1987; Music: Scottish traditional, arr. The Iona Community 1987. Words & arr. © 1987 WGRG, the Iona Community, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION

Copyright © 2001 Nathan Nettleton. Posted on LaughingBird.net Used with permission.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AUGUST 09, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

SUN. AUG. 23 SP PAPER BAG COMMUNION/PICNIC SERVICE: On Sunday, August 23, Stony Plain United Church will be holding its annual Paper Bag Communion Service with pot luck lunch to follow. Devon, St. Andrew’s and Mewassin have been invited. Mewassin is still having its regular service, with Communion, at 9 am.

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 Sun. Aug. 30.

REMINDERS

CARD RECREATORS ON BREAK: The Card Recreators will **NOT** meet Thursday, Aug 13. They’ll be back at work on Thursday, Aug. 20.

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. .

EDMONTON PRIDE PARADE SAT. AUG 22: The Northern Spirit Affirm Committee is hosting an entry in the Edmonton Pride Parade and inviting Affirming congregations and ministries, and all United Church members and friends who are interested, to walk together. Every participant needs to be registered. Parade starts at 1pm (line up begins at 11:30.) If you want to walk with us in the Edmonton Pride Parade on August 22nd register here: [NS Affirm Parade Registration Link](#)

WED. SEPT 30, 6:30 PM: HORIZON STAGE - NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: Horizon Stage in Spruce Grove is hosting an evening of reflection and connection as we mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Through stories, reflections and open conversation, we will honour the lived experiences of Indigenous Peoples. This is a time to listen, learn and explore how each of us can commit to the work of healing and reconciliation. Tea, Bannock and light refreshments will be served. **This event is free, but you must reserve tickets.** For more information and to reserve tickets, see the following:
<https://www.horizonstage.com/season-shows/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation/>

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.

REV DEBORAH'S SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

Sun. Aug 9, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW
SAT AUG 15, 2026	1 pm Special Service at Mewassin to celebrate 100 years of Ministry
Sun. Aug 16, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN
Sun. Aug 23, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW. SP: Paper Bag Communion/Picnic Service MEW: Regular Communion Service
Sun. Aug 30, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC. NO SERVICE IN MEWASSIN (Camping Weekend)
Sun. Sept 6, 2026	Rev. Deborah away.

MEWASSIN SUMMER SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sun. Aug 9	Regular Service
Sat. Aug 15:	100 th Anniversary Service
Sun. Aug 16	<u>No Service</u>
Sun. Aug 23	Regular (Communion) Service
Aug 30	<u>No Service</u> (Camping Weekend)

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: No practices until Sept 2 or 9 unless otherwise notified
Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am ***NOT AUG 6 or 13***

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat. Aug. 15	MEWASSIN 100th Anniversary Service
Sun. Aug 16	NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN
Sun. Aug 23	SP Paper Bag Communion/Pot Luck Lunch Service.
Fri. Aug 28 to Sun. Aug 30	MEWASSIN Camp out at Entwistle RV Campground
Sun. Aug. 30	NO SERVICE AT MEWASSIN
Sat. Sept 26	MEWASSIN Bottle Drive
Wed. Sept 30	6:30 pm Horizon Stage – Truth & Reconciliation