

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 – Creation 2

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church
Mailing Address: Box 3196, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1C2
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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=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

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) based on Psalm 145: 1-8

Come, let's praise God together!

For God is great, and worthy of our praise!

Let's tell stories of God's power and majesty,

His mighty acts throughout history:

for God is great, and worthy of our praise!

Let's remember the compassion He has shown toward us;

His mercy and unfailing love, generation after generation:

for God is great, and worthy of our praise!

Let's pass these stories along to our children and grandchildren,

so that they, too, may come to know and love our God.

For God is great, and worthy of our praise!

Let's worship God together!

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GATHERING PRAYER

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GATHERING HYMN: VU #312 "Praise with Joy the World's Creator"

Verse 1 Praise with joy the world's Creator, God of justice, love, and peace, source and end of human knowledge, God whose grace shall never cease. Celebrate the Maker's glory, power to rescue and release.

Verse 2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry, frees the captive, finds the lost, heals the sick, upsets religion, fearless both of fate and cost. Celebrate Christ's constant presence: friend and stranger, guest and host.

Verse 3 Praise the Spirit sent among us, liberating truth from pride, forging bonds where race or gender, age or nation dare divide. Celebrate the Spirit's treasure: foolishness none dare deride.

Verse 4 Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit, one God in community, calling Christians to embody oneness and diversity. This the world shall see reflected: God is One and One in Three.

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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CONCERNS AND JOYS

PRAYERS OF CONCERNS AND JOYS (One Voice)

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
--

SPUC SPECIAL MUSIC "For Beauty of Meadows"

Words by Walter Farquharson, Choral Setting by Hal Hopson.

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #575 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

Verse 1 I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)
 I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me
 Any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)

Verse 2 I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)
 I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)

Verse 3 I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)
 I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)

Verse 4 I'm gonna sing so (sing so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)
 I'm gonna sing so (sing so) God can use me
 any where, Lord, any time! (any time!)
 Words and music: African-American spiritual. Public Domain

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (*One voice*)

Written by Amy Loving. Posted on <http://worshipcloset.com> Used with permission.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: SPUC Reader:

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 HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Exodus 16:2-15

Bread and Quail

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

Wages for Workers

SERMON by Rev. Deborah Hoekstra

“No Matter How Late”

A PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Response: God, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Written by Christine Longhurst Posted on [re: Worship](http://re:Worship) Adapted. Used with permission.

HYMN (*seated*) MV #98

“Like a River of Tears”

Verse 1: Like a river of tears your love pours upon us; like a sunshine of blessing your grace will sustain us; like a star-studded sky your spirit shines o'er us, renewing our spirits with courage and faith.

Verse 2: Like a bird in free flight by windows around us; like a wind in the forest that breathes life among us; like a phoenix that rising from ashes around us, renewing our spirits with vision and grace.

Verse 3: Like a pillar of cloud you promise to guide us; like a bright fiery bush you come to speak to us; like a calm cooling breeze your spirit breathes in us, renewing our spirits with loving embrace.

Verse 4: Like a lover's caress your spirit revives us; like a song of the soul you come to be with us; like a prayer of the heart you heal and restore us, renewing our spirits, the future to face.

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THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY



The following was written by Jes Smith, Executive Director at Bedford House in Peterborough, ON.
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INVITATION/OFFERTORY (*Sung*) TLUS #60 “There’s Enough for All”

There’s enough for all if we would learn to share it, there’s enough for all, oh, help us to believe.
There’s enough for all. Let’s bring our loaves and fishes, and offer them to Jesus.
There’s more than enough for you and me

Words & Music: Bryan Moyer Suderman, alt. © 2024 Bryan Moyer Suderman/Small Tall Music. All rights reserved.
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PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Dear Gracious God, we give back to you in thankfulness
what you have given to us in kindness.

We acknowledge that the world and its resources are not ours but yours,
and that you have put us in charge as your trustees.

Help us to exercise responsibly the authority you give us in your world.

Let Jesus, your Son, be the pattern for all our dealings with one another,
and with the rest of creation. Bless the gifts we now present back to you,
so that they may be used in the work of your Kingdom on this earth. Amen.

Posted on <https://worshipleaderguide.blogspot.com/> Adapted. Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US

SENDING HYMN: VU #579 “The Church Is Wherever God’s People”

Verse 1 The church is wherever God’s people are praising, singing God’s goodness for joy on this day. The church is wherever disciples of Jesus remember his story and walk in his way.

Verse 2 The church is wherever God's people are helping, caring for neighbours in sickness and need. The church is wherever God's people are sharing the words of the Bible in gift and in deed.

Words: Carol Rose Ikeler 1959. Music: English Carol, arr. F. R. C. Clarke 1971 Words copyright © 1983 W. L. Jenkins. Used and adapted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A 718663

COMMISSIONING

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BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE: SUNG RESPONSE: VU #646 "We Are Marching"

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

(the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,) oo-oo, (marching,)

We are marching in the light of God. (the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,) oo-oo, (marching,)

We are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen, kwenkhos', Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen, kwenkhos', Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

(khanyen' kwenkhos'.)

Siyahamba, (hamba siyahamba,) oo-oo, (hamba,)

Siyahamb', ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'. (khanyen'kwenkhos'.)

Siyahamba, (hamba siyahamba,) oo-oo, (hamba,)

Siyahamb', ekukhanyen'kwenkhos'.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

(the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,) oo-oo, (marching,)

We are marching in the light of God. (the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,) oo-oo, (marching,)

We are marching in the light of God.

Words and Music: South African traditional song 20th century. Trans. And Arr. Anders Nyberg.

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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 SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

MEWASSIN

SAT. SEPT 26/26 The Sunday School is having a bottle drive. If anyone has any bottles to donate please contact the Stony Plain office for more information.

SUN. OCT 11/26 Bring your Thanksgiving offerings of non-perishable items to Church. All offerings will go to WEE FOOD BANK-(Wildwood -Entwistle-Evansburg) West Parkland County.

SUN.OCT 18/26 9am The Congregational Board Meeting will be held. The Sunday service will begin after the meeting followed by Coffee Sunday and viewing of the power-point presentation from our 100th Anniv. There will be more pictures from that day as well.

WED. OCT 21/26 6pm There will be a sustainable discussion evening with a chili supper held in the Church. A congregational email will be sent in regards to food contributions.

STONY PLAIN

THUR. SEPT 24/26 1:30pm The Worship Committee will meet in the Chapel at 1:30pm. This meeting will also be available on zoom.

THUR. OCT 1/26 1:30pm Joint Worship Committee meeting date change from Sept 17/26 to Oct 1/26. Meeting will be held in Church.

THUR. OCT 1/26 7pm-8:45pm The Council meeting will be held in the upper meeting room.

FALL FOOD DRIVE: Leading up to Thanksgiving we will be collecting items for the Parkland Food Bank. If you are able, please bring non-perishable food, hygiene products, baby food, pet food and toilet paper. Items can be dropped off at the Stony Plain United Church.

COMMUNITY

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE October is the time to renew your subscription, or begin a new subscription. The group rate is still \$30 per year and you may pay with cash or a cheque made out to Stony Plain United Church with **BROADVIEW on the memo line**. Sample copies of this award winning journal are on the table in the narthex. The renewal list must be submitted to Broadview by **Oct 21, 2026**. There will be someone in Church available Sundays Oct 4, 11 and 18 to receive your money . Changes of address or contact information must be submitted at the same time.

WED. SEPT 30/26 10:00 AM – 12:00PM: TRUTH & RECONCILIATION: Guests are invited to enjoy tea and Bannock, while gathering in the spirit of reconciliation and community. The event takes place at Heritage Park, Stony Plain.

WED. SEPT 30/26 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/>

TOWN OF STONY PLAIN has announced the upcoming programs and events for the month of October. Please see the bulletin board for more information including phone numbers and email addresses or go to the Town of Stony Plain website for more information.

REFERENDUM NEWS The Northern Spirit Regional Council (NSRC) has taken a position: **no to the nine** questions and for question 10, **Option 1: in favour** of staying in Canada calling us to focus on the common good. NSRC is not, and does not, speak for you or your community of faith, but it does have the responsibility to speak and act according to United Church policies, theologies, and understanding of scriptures. No matter your perspective, please take the time to learn and engage respectfully in community. And, please vote on October 19, 2026.

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. Sept 27/26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Oct 4/26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Oct 11/26	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon UC. SP Presider: TBD MEW Presider:
Sun. Oct 18/ 26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Oct 25/ 26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukelele & Choir practice

Card Recreators: 10:00am SP Thursdays

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Thur. Sept 24	1:30pm SP Worship Committee meeting
Sat. Sept 26	MEW Bottle Drive
Wed. Sept 30	10:00am-12:00pm Heritage Park Truth & Reconciliation.
Wed. Sept 30	6:30pm Horizon Stage – Truth & Reconciliation
Thur. Oct 1	1:30pm SP Joint
Thur. Oct 1	7pm – 8:45 SP Council meeting
Sun. Oct 11	MEW food drive pick up
Sun. Oct 18	9am MEW Congregation Board meeting & Coffee Sunday
Mon. Oct 19	Referendum vote
Wed. Oct 21	6pm MEW Sustainable discussion & chili supper in Church