

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
OCTOBER 11, 2026 – Creation 5
THANKSGIVING 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

Join **Zoom Meeting** via computer (with password) **DO NOT POST ON WEB OR FACEBOOK**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364019239?pwd=TEYd2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlp4Y3Q4UT09>
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 presider today.
Thanks to Rev. Deborah for preparing the service.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

BACKGROUND ON CANADIAN THANKSGIVING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE GATHER TOGETHER BEFORE GOD
on traditional territory of Treaty Six Peoples and of the Métis Nation

CALL TO WORSHIP

Written by Anne Mathewson. **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 (Year A) page 42. Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER (Responsive)

God of life and love

We rejoice in your abundant gifts

God of all peoples and all places

We celebrate your generosity and grace

God of the earth and the heavens

We praise you for your provision

You visit the earth and water it

Softening it with showers and blessing its growth

You make springs gush forth in the valleys

From your lofty abode you water the mountains

God of life and love

We bless your holy name. Amen.

Posted on <http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk> Used with permission.

GATHERING HYMN: VU #226**“For the Beauty of the Earth”****Verse 1**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 2

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 3

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 4

For each perfect gift sublime to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven.
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Words by Folliott Sandford Pierpoint 1864, alt. Music: David Evans 1927, used by permission of Oxford University Press Public Domain

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**SPUC SPECIAL MUSIC – ALL GOOD GIFTS****THEME TIME *the bounty of the harvest*****HYMN: VU #225****“We Praise You for the Sun”****Verse 1**

We praise you for the sun,
the golden shining sun,
that gives us healing, strength and joy,
we praise you for the sun.

Verse 2

We praise you for the rain,
the softly falling rain,
that gives us healing, strength, and joy,
we praise you for the rain.

Verse 3

We praise you for your love,
your patient, endless love,
that gives us healing, strength, and joy,
we praise you for your love.

Words: Alice Muriel Pullen 1939, alt.; Music: Gifford Jerome Mitchell, 1969

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Posted on <https://pcusa.org/> Adapted. 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.

RESPONSIVE PSALM VU page 786**Psalm 67****Refrain:**

Let the peoples praise you, God, let the nations shout their joy.

Be gracious unto us, O God, and bless us;
and let the light of your face shine upon us,
**That your ways may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the nations be glad, and sing for joy,
**For you judge the peoples righteously
and guide the nations of the earth.**

The earth has yielded its harvest,
and you, our God, have blessed us.
**Your blessing, O God, be upon us.
May all the ends of the earth revere you.**

Refrain:

Let the peoples praise you, God, let the nations shout their joy.

Henry Thomas Smart 1867 Public Domain

THE GOSPEL LESSON**Matthew 13:1-8****The Parable of the Sower****SERMON by Rev. Deborah Hoekstra****“Gathering the Harvest”****HYMN (seated) VU #218****“We Praise You, O God”****Verse 1**

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Verse 2

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
 through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
 When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,
 but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

Verse 3

With voices united our praises we offer
 and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
 to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Words: Julia Cory 1902, Alt. Music: Netherlands melody 1626; Public Domain

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION
MISSION AND SERVICE STORY (*One voice*)

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WORDS OF INVITATION**OFFERTORY 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

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Written by Rev. Michael Mair. Posted on <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/> Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD
CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US**COMMISSIONING**

From Christian Aid and Christian Ecology Link. Posted on <http://third-space.org.uk/blog>. Used with permission.

BENEDICTION**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 OCTOBER 11, 2026

MEWASSIN

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.

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 regarding food contributions.

STONY PLAIN

WED. OCT 14/26 1:30pm UCW meeting will be held in the Church. There will be Thanksgiving program. Everyone welcome.

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.

FRI. OCT 30/26 HARVEST SUPPER – There is still a need for donations and workers, if you are interested there is a sign up sheet in the lobby of the Church. Please invite your friends & neighbours all are welcome. Doors open at 4:30pm. Supper from 5:00pm-6:00pm tickets available in admin. office during regular business hours. General Admission \$27.00 per person, children 6-11 \$13.00 per person, 5 and under free.

SUN. DEC 13/26 Please save the date for the Christmas Cantata/Supper event. More details to follow in upcoming weeks.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES Stony Plain has (ALDs) that can be used for the service or other events as needed. For more information or if you would like to try one out please see the Audio-Visual Tech team.

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 available Sundays Oct 4, 11 and 18 to receive your money. Changes of address or contact information must be submitted at the same time.

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 October 19, 2026: The 10 referendum questions are quite long and somewhat confusing. As you prepare to vote, here is the link to see the potential implications from the Northern Spirit Regional Council's perspective: [Know the Nine](#). And here is a link to the plain language questions: [Alberta's 10 Referendum Questions — and Which Results Bind](#) **Please be informed. And please vote.**

WHISPERING WATERS COMMUNITY SERVICE – The first Wednesday of each month is the Whispering Waters Service at 7:15pm at the Center.

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. Oct 18/ 26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Oct 25/ 26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Nov 1/26	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon SP Presider: TBD MEW Presider: TBD
Sun. Nov 8/26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Nov 15/26	Rev. Deborah on holidays

WEEKLY & RECURRING ACTIVITIES

Ukelele & Choir practice

Card Recreators 10:00am SP Thursdays

First Wed each month Whispering Water Comm. Service 7:15pm

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed. Oct 14 1:30 UCW meeting

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