

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
October 25, 2026 – Reformation 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=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 the Men's group for Breakfast this morning ☺

HYMN SING/PRELUDE

INTROIT *sung by the choir* **TLUS #150 (2X)** **“Here In This Place”**
Here in this place, the breath of God,
my soul finds repose;
holy space, the heartbeat of God,
my soul finds a home.

WELCOME AND 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 Beth W. Johnston. **Gathering 2026 Pentecost 2 (Year A)** page 46.
Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

Source: Seasons of Creation: Resources for Reformation Day.
Used with permission.

GATHERING HYMN: VU #686 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Verse 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.
Verse 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.

Verse 3 Cure your children's warring madness, bend our pride to your control; shame our wanton selfish gladness, rich in goods and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Verse 4 Set our feet on lofty places, gird our lives that they may be armoured with all Christlike graces, pledged to set all captives free.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor thee.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick 1930, alt. Music: Welsh traditional melody, arr. F. R. C. Clarke 1970. Arrangement copyright © 1970 F. R. C. Clarke. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

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 "Give us Peace"

Words and Music by Stan Pethel

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #299

"Teach Me, God to Wonder"

Verse 1 Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see; let your world of beauty capture me.

Refrain: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived, life be celebrated, joy you give.

Verse 2 Let me, God, be open, let me loving be; let your world of people speak to me.

Refrain: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived, life be celebrated, joy you give.

Verse 3 Let me God, be ready, let me be awake, in your world of loving my place take.

Refrain: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived, life be celebrated, joy you give.

Verse 4 Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak, see you in my neighbour when we meet.

**Refrain: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.**

Words: Walter Farquharson 1973; Music Ron Klusmeier 1974. Words copyright © 1973 Walter Farquharson Music copyright © 1974 Ron Klusmeier.
All Rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Posted on <https://www.caldwellpresby.org/> 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 PSALMS

Psalms 46

God's Defense of His City and People

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 8:31-36

True Disciples

SERMON by Rev. Deborah Hoekstra

"Still Changing"

HYMN (seated) MV #28

"God of the Bible"

Verse 1 God of the Bible, God in the Gospel, hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come, you are our centre, daylight or darkness, freedom or prison, you are our home

Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Verse 2 God in our struggles, God in our hunger suffering with us, taking our part, still you empow'r us, mothering spirit, feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Verse 3 Those without status, those who are nothing, you have made royal, gifted with rights, chosen as partners, midwives of justice, birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Verse 4 Not by your finger, not by your anger will our world order change in a day, but by your people, fearless and faithful, small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Verse 5 Hope we must carry, shining and certain through all our turmoil, terror and loss, bonding us gladly one to the other, till our world changes facing the cross.

Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray 1995; Music: Tony E. Alonso, 2001. Words Copyright © 1996 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.
Reprinted under One License #A-718663

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION (Responsive)

Come gather up our gifts. With joy, let us offer to our Creator a thanksgiving portion for all we have received.

As we give from our hearts, let these offerings, be blessed. Praise and thanks to God.

Written by Jim McKean. **Gathering 2026 Pentecost 2 (Year A)** page 43. Used with permission.

OFFERTORY MV #191**“What Can I Do?”**

What can I do? What can I bring?
 What can I say? What can I sing?
 I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
 I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Creator God, you gave us gifts and we have used them: we offer them now to you in love and wonder. **Be pleased to accept our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Written by Kate Gregory, **Gathering 2017 Pentecost 2 (Year A)** Used with permission.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD
CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US**SENDING HYMN: Psalm 90 VU p. 806 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

Verse 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
 our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Verse 2 Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure,
 sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defence is sure.

Verse 3 Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
 from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

Verse 4 A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
 short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Verse 5 Time like an ever-rolling stream soon bears us all away;
 we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Verse 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts 1719, Alt. Music: Attrib. William Craft 1708. Public Domain

COMMISSIONING

Written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet. **Gathering 2026 Pentecost 2 (Year A)** page 46. **Adapted.** Used with permission.

BENEDICTION**SPUC TLUS #105 (2X)****“May You Be Held”**

May you be held,
 may you be held in the love,
 In the love of God.

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 25, 2026

MEWASSIN

STONY PLAIN

PURDY'S CHOCOLATES Back by popular demand! Since 1907, Purdy's chocolates have been proudly made in Canada, with premium quality ingredients and sustainable cocoa. Get your holiday gifts for everyone and support our church. There are no-sugar & vegan options as well as treats for Hanukkah too! Join on-line at Welcome to the Purdy Fundraiser: "Christmas Chocolates for Stony Plain United Church" <https://fundraising.purdys.com/fundraising/campaign/000030698>.

You may submit a paper copy and leave at the church office. Place orders and pay by Thurs. Nov. 26/26 at the latest. Pickup is Dec. 13, 2026 (or earlier) at Stony Plain United Church, 5012 – 51 Ave, Stony Plain, AB 780963-4745

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 - Christmas Cantata/Supper event.

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

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.

SAT. NOV 14/26 SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS GRIEF EVENT 10 am-12 noon. Sunshine Room, Grace United Church 6215 104 Ave. This event designed to help Grieving people understand how holidays can exacerbate and trigger Grief and gives valuable tools for helping you get through the holidays. Open to everyone. Please invite someone you know that might benefit. There will be an introduction, short video and discussion. There will be a free booklet for participants and access to the video online. Contact the Grace United Church office at grace.united@shaw.ca or 780-466-0916. You can also register online at Griefshare <https://find.griefshare.org/events/307808>

WHISPERING WATERS SERVICE – 7:15pm First Wed. each month at Whispering Waters Center.

REHOBOTH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES invites you to join the Friends of Rehoboth Campaign and the Building a Well Campaign. Together, these initiatives help provide safe homes, life-enriching programs, and opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities to flourish in their communities. Friends of Rehoboth supports ongoing ministry and services across Alberta, while Building a Well creates a lasting legacy of hope and belonging. Every gift helps create space for people to flourish. Become a Friend. Build a Future To donate, visit www.rcmflourish.ca/donate or donation materials along with the latest *Flourish* newsletters are available at the church. As well, the digital version of the *Flourish* newsletter can be accessed through this link: <https://rcmflourish.ca/who-we-are/flourish-newsletter/> For questions: please reach out to Linda Maki.

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. Nov 1/26	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon SP Presider: MEW Presider:
Sun. Nov 8/26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.
Sun. Nov 15/26	Rev. Deborah on holidays
Sun. Nov 22/26	Rev. Deborah in person at Devon SP Presider: MEW Presider:
Sun. Nov 29/26	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.

WEEKLY & RECURRING ACTIVITIES

Wed.	7pm SP Cantata practice
Wed.	6:15pm-7pm SP Ukelele & Choir practice
Thurs.	10:00am-2pm SP Card Recreators
Wed.	7:15pm First Wed. each month Whispering Waters Comm. Service

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Fri. Oct 30	5pm-6pm SP Fall Supper in Church
Sat. Nov 21	9am-1pm UCW SP Craft & Bake Sale in Church
Sun Dec 13	Cantata supper event