

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
NOVEMBER 16, 2025
CHILDREN'S 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!

*Thank-you to Susan Oleskiw
for preparing the service and leading us in Worship today.*

MEWASSIN: Please stay for Coffee after the Service
STONY PLAIN: Please stay for Lunch after the Service

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: ISAIAH 12: 3-6 (responsive)

Give thanks to the LORD!

Praise His name!

Tell the whole world what He has done—

His mighty acts on our behalf.

Sing to the LORD,

for He has done wonderful things for us!

Raise your hearts and voices!

shout and sing your praise!

For great is the Holy One who lives among us!

~ Christine Longhurst, re: Worship (from Isaiah 12:3-6) Posted on <https://re-worship.blogspot.com> Used with permission.

GATHERING SONG: MV #21 "Open Our Hearts" (Sing twice)

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.

Open our hearts.

~ Words and Music: Jim Strathdee 2006. Copyright © 2006 Desert Flower Music. All Rights reserved.
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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING PRAYER (*Unison*)

God of All the Ages,
 we thank you for this day,
 for caring for us beautifully in this time.
 We praise your name for the gift of children
 in our lives and in our community.
 Forgive us for times when we discount their voices.
 Help us share your story with one another
 that we may remember your love written on our hearts.
 Remind us to follow children,
 as they lead us to living the kin-dom way.
 We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

~ From the United Church of Canada Children's Service 2017 <https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/childrens-sunday>

HYMN: VU# 326 O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

Verse 1: O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
 the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace.

Verse 2: Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

Verse 3: He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
 the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Verse 4: Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones, your tongues again employ;
 you blind, behold your Saviour comes, and leap, you lame, for joy!

Verse 5: My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
 to spread through all the earth abroad the honours of your name.

~ Words: Charles Wesley 1719 alt. Music Carl Gotthelf Glaser ca. 1828 Public Domain

WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: A CREED (unison)

We are all God's children. We live together in God's family. God is our Father, our Mother, our Parent, our Creator, our Mentor, and our eternal Lord.

Jesus is our brother, our Saviour, our teacher, our friend.

The Holy Spirit is within us, our guide, our conscience, and the source of life.

The church is our home, where we find acceptance, forgiveness, hope, and belonging.

We are all God's children. We each have our own special place in God's family.

~ The 1998 confirmation class, shared by Mead Baldwin, Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley, P.C., Que. Pentecost 2 2025 (year C) p. 71

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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
GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir "A Sunday School Celebration"

Arranged by Larry Shackley

THEME TIME

HYMN: "We Are The Church" (as written below)

**CHORUS: I am the Church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together.**

Verse 1: The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
The church is not a resting place, the church is a people!

Verse 2: We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,
All colours and all ages, too, from all times and places.

**CHORUS: I am the Church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together.**

Verse 3: Sometimes the church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning,
Sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning.

Verse 4: And when the people gather, there's singing and there's praying,
There's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying:

**CHORUS: I am the Church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together.**

Verse 5: At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit
And told the Good News through the world to all who would hear it.

Verse 6: I count if I am ninety, or nine, or just a baby;
There's one thing I am sure about and I don't mean maybe:

**CHORUS: I am the Church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together.**

~Words and Music by Richard Avery and Donald Marsh. Copyright © 1973 by Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-718663.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Mysterious God, tickle the places deep inside us when we receive the words of scripture. Stir our understanding with deep delight. Empower us to receive your good news with openness

and wonder, as we ponder the secret of timeless realities. May your message become our hope. In the name of the One who is infinite Love. Amen

~ Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton BC, Gathering Pentecost 2 2025 page 37.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 65: 17 – 25

Gospel: Luke 21: 5 – 19

REFLECTION: “Carriers of the Gospel” by Susan Oleskiw

HYMN: “Trust and Obey” Verses 1,3,5

Verse 1

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
what a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will He abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

REFRAIN:

**Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

Verse 3: Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, not a frown nor a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

**REFRAIN: Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

Verse 5: Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we’ll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go –
Never fear, only trust and obey.

**REFRAIN: Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

Words: John H. Sammis, 1887; Music: Daniel B. Towner, 1887. Public Domain.

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

MISSION and SERVICE STORY

~ <https://united-church.ca/stories/sleepless-nights-shared-strength> Used with permission.

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY: MV #191 “What Can I Do?” (2x)

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.

(REPEAT)

~ Words and music: Raul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore 2005 © by Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663.

DEDICATION of GIFTS: (Unison)

Loving God, we recognize that your blessings come in so many ways; we seek to be a blessing to others. Use and multiply our gifts so that the work of our church here and around the world can be a sign of your caring presence. Amen.

~ Beth W. Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask. Gathering Pentecost 2 2025 page 38.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING HYMN: MV#150 “Spirit God, Be Our Breath” (standing for remainder of service, if able)

Verse 1: Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn ...
Spirit God, be our song.

Verse 2: Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear.
Comfort us. When we know you are near
we grow more certain, our vision is clear.
Patient God, calm our fear.

Verse 3: Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
we seek your guidance through friendship and care.
Loving God, be our prayer.

Verse 4: Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn ...
Spirit God, be our song.

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CARRYING THE CHRIST LIGHT WITH US**COMMISSIONING****BENEDICTION**

SUNG RESPONSE: MV # 212 “Sent Out In Jesus’ Name” (No Repeats)

Sent out in Jesus’ name, our hands are ready now
To make the world the place in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
Into a world of love, of justice and of peace.
The task is ours to do, to set it really free.
O, help us to obey, and carry out your will.

Words and Music: Traditional song, Cuba. English trans. Jorge Maldonado; arr. More Voices, 2007. English translation copyright © 1988 Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS NOVEMBER 16, 2025

NEW OR REVISED

THANK-YOU! To all who helped with lunch today, THANK-YOU VERY MUCH!

SUNDAY, NOV. 16 ADVENT DINNER/CATERING COMMITTEE: The catering committee will be meeting after service @ noon on Sunday, Nov 16, to discuss the Advent Dinner then a catering meeting. Approximately an hour.

SAT. NOV 29 UCW MUFFIN CAFÉ, BAKE & CRAFT SALE: Sat. Nov 29, 2025, the UCW will hold their muffin café, bake and craft sale. We welcome craft and baking donations. Baking may be packaged in clean, repurposed, clear top, food containers. Label with name of item, quantity, and with/without nuts. Please bring to the church before noon Fri. Nov 28.

WED. DEC 3: UCW CHRISTMAS MEETING. On Dec 3 at 12:00 noon we will share Chinese food. All ladies are welcome. If you plan to attend, let the church office know

NEWS FROM NORTHERN SPIRIT:

Northern Spirit Climate Contacts

Is your church passionate about climate justice? Do you have special climate-related projects or a justice team working on climate-related issues? The Northern Spirit office & Executive is working on assembling a contact list for communicating key climate-related actions and events. Please [contact the office](#) if your church has any contacts who would appreciate being on this list!

New Northern Spirit Staff:

Kevin Guenther Trautwein hired as First-Third Ministry Animator!

Northern Spirit is very excited to welcome Kevin Guenther Trautwein as our new First-Third Ministry Animator. [Click here to read the full announcement on the NS website!](#)

REMINDERS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025 SP COUNCIL MEETING: The Stony Plain Council will meet at 7 pm on Tuesday Nov. 18 in the Board Room at the Church or on Zoom.

ADVENT DINNER AND CHOIR CANTATA SUNDAY, DEC 14: Tickets are now available at the Church Office for this year's Christmas Cantata and Advent Supper on Sunday, Dec. 14. General admission: \$27.00; Children 6 to 11: \$13.00 and Children 5 & under: Free. Dinner starts at 5:00 pm (doors open at 4:30) and will include Ham, Scalloped Potatoes and all the trimmings. The musical portion of the evening starts with Carol Singing and Special Music at 6:30 followed by the Cantata, "Glory to the Newborn King!" by Lloyd Larson at 7:00 pm. Plan to stay afterward for fellowship, coffee and dessert. As always, we depend on volunteers to make the dinner a success – later this month, there will be Sign Up sheets in the atrium for donations of grocery items and/or your time.

NEWS FROM MEWASSIN

- Next **Coffee Sundays** are **November 16 (Today!)** and **December 21**.
- Next **Communion** dates are **November 23** and **January 11/26**
- **Keephills Hall is having a pancake breakfast on November 30** (9 am - 11:30 am). Tickets are \$10.00 ahead of time or \$15.00 at the door. Kids under 12 are \$5.00.
- **Sunday School** will again be doing the **Advent candle lightings**. Advent starts on November 30, 2025.
- The annual **Christmas Brunch** will take place on **December 7** (2nd Sunday in Advent) immediately following the service. Deborah will be staying with us for the morning. Please contribute by bringing a pot-luck food item.
- **White Gift Sundays will be November 30 and December 7**. Our clothesline will be hanging up for collection of socks for Parenting for the Future. Socks of any kind are needed – kids, women and men.
- Our **Christmas Eve Service is Sunday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m.**
- There will be **no service at Mewassin on December 28**. All are welcome to join in Stony's service at 10:30 a.m.
- More Christmas announcements to come.

SUN NOV 30 BREAKFAST: The Men's Club will be serving breakfast on Sun Nov 30 from about 8:45 am to 9:30 am. Please join us!

PURDY'S CHOCOLATES FUNDRAISER: Help support our church by ordering Purdy's chocolates for Christmas! Back by popular demand! Since 1907, Purdy's fine chocolates have been proudly made in Canada, with premium quality ingredients and sustainable cocoa. Get your holiday gifts for your family, friends, neighbours, and co-workers by supporting our church. There are no-sugar and vegan options and treats for Hanukkah too! Join on-line at Welcome to the Purdy Fundraiser: "Christmas Chocolates for Stony Plain United Church" and place your order at: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1373249-131022>. Alternatively, you may submit a paper form the church office.

Place Orders & Pay By: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at the latest.

Pickup: December 14, 2025 (or earlier - you will be notified when the orders arrive)

At: Stony Plain United Church, 5012 – 51 Ave, Stony Plain

Thanks for supporting our church!

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

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: Ukes 6:15, Cantata 7 pm; Choir 8 pm
Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun. Nov 16	Mew: Coffee Sunday
Sun. Nov 16	SP: Lunch Sunday; Catering Meeting
Tues Nov 18	7 pm SP Council Meeting
Sun. Nov 23	Communion both Churches
Tues Nov 25	Deadline to order Purdy's chocolates for Christmas!
Sat. Nov 29	UCW Muffin Café, Bake and Craft Sale
Sun Nov 30	8:45 am Breakfast prepared by the Men's Club
Sun Nov 30, Dec 7	Mew: White Gift Sundays – please donate socks
Sun Dec 7	Mew: Annual Christmas Brunch after church

EVENTS AT OTHER NORTHERN SPIRIT REGION CHURCHES: (see posters on bulletin board)

- **Sat. Nov 22 Spirit of Hope United Church** 7909 Whyte (82nd) Ave. N. W. Edmonton. **Christmas Bake Sale and Artisan Market** 10 am to 3 pm. Baking, Crafts, Lunch (Beef on a Bun, Pie)
- **Sat. Nov 22 Grace United Church:** 6215 104 Ave. Edmonton. **Christmas Bazaar** 10 am to 2 pm. Gifts, crafts, Kids' shopping opportunity, baking etc. Lunch (\$12).
- **Sun. Nov 23 Spirit West United Church:** 7003 199 St. N.W. Edmonton. **Craft & Bake Sale** 12:30 to 3 pm. Home Baking, Handmade Crafts, Store for kids to Christmas shop, Hot chocolate provided!
- **Sat. Nov 29 Mill Woods United Church:** 15 Grand Meadow Cres. NW, Edmonton. **Christmas Market** 10 am to 4 pm. 50+ Vendors, Children's activities, unique gifts.
- **Fri. Dec 5, Sat. Dec 6 Pilgrim United Church** 9008 15 Ave. Edmonton **Christmas Market** Fri 10 am to 6 pm; Sat 10 am to 4 pm
- **Sat. Dec 6 St. Andrew's United Church:** 1A Fieldstone Drive, Spruce Grove, **Christmas Market** 10 am to 2 pm. 25 vendors on site including holiday baking, second hand books and unique one-of-a-kind gifts.