

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MEWASSIN UNITED CHURCH
17 OCTOBER, 2021
WORLD FOOD SUNDAY**

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church
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WELCOME to our service this morning!



In recognition of World Food Sunday, you may bring a donation of non-perishable food to the Church on Sunday (or during the week) and we will deliver it to the Parkland Food Bank.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOGETHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE: MV # 172 'God Says' (verse 1)

Verse 1: God says, "Be still so you may hear the words I whisper in your ear. If you will listen, you will know I'm with you always where you go."

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CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

As we gather together in worship, what are we hungry for?

We have enough to eat, but hunger for meaning in our lives, hope in our hearts and a way to serve others.

As we gather together in worship, what are we thirsty for?

We have clean water to drink, but hunger for right relationships with one another, for the world's food to be shared equally, and for the guidance of God as we seek ways of justice. We have gathered in this place, to feed our hungry and slake our thirst. Let us now worship our God in community.

OPENING PRAYER: (unison)

Loving God, we hear you calling out to us. Calling us to come together in community to build our faith, reconnect with our call to seek righteousness in your name, and to strengthen our relationship with you, and with one another. Be with us now in this time of worship, so that we may carry your light and love and peace with us wherever we go. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: VU # 639 'One More Step Along The World I Go'

Verse 1: One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain: And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.

Verse 2: Round the corner of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me:

Refrain

Verse 3: As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go you'll be telling me the way, I know:

Refrain

Verse 4: Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain

Verse 5: You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain

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LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE: (responsive)

And so may the light of Christ be in you.

...and also in you.

BRINGING ALL OF WHO WE ARE

PRAYER FOR GRACE: (unison)

Gracious God, we are all too aware that we live in a world where resources are not evenly spread. We know we live in a world where abundance and want exist side by side. We know, and yet we are unsure of what we can do to make things right. Sometimes we feel we have the right to have plenty; that we have earned our success. And we have. However, were we to have been born in a different place, in different circumstances, would this be the case? Help us understand that our good fortune can lead us to sharing what we have, with open hearts and generous hands. For your Son was clear in his call for us to see all of creation as our neighbours. In his name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (responsive)

The Good News is that God's Kingdom has come in the way of Jesus.

As we share what we have we are fed. As we forgive, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God for the grace to grow and learn as we continue to walk the journey of life with Jesus' guidance. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AND HEARING THE WORD OF GOD FOR OUR LIVES

THE GIFT OF MUSIC: Jubilant Singers 'Shout for Joy to the Lord'

Words and Music by Douglas Nolan, Text Based on Psalm 98

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE:

Job 38:1-7;34-41

'God Responds to Job's Complaints'

Mark 10:35-45

'James and John argue over sitting next to Jesus'

REFLECTION

HERITAGE HYMN: VU # 264 'Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise'

Verse 1: Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Verse 2: Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Verse 3: To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life, thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Verse 4: Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render, O help us to see 'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt. 1987. Music: Welsh folk song, arr. John Roberts (Heullan) in *Caniadau y Cyssegr* 1839. Public Domain

SO WE MIGHT RESPOND WITH INTENTION

MINUTE FOR MISSION

DEDICATION OF GIFTS: VU # 540 'Grant Us, God, the Grace'

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

Words: Anonymous. Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, *Psalmodia Sacra* 1713, Public Domain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AND LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

HYMN: MV # 1 'Let Us Build a House'

Verse 1: Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Verse 2: Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Verse 3: Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Verse 4: Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast
and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Verse 5: Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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CARRYING CHRIST'S LIGHT WITH US

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION: (responsive)

Christ sends us out with passionate hearts. So we might build relationships of justice and love.
The Spirit blows us into unexpected places, where we may find the lost, alone and hungry.
**As we go now, let us proclaim our promise in voices clear, that we are walking with
Jesus' toward a world of love and equality.**

POSTLUDE

Announcements October 17, 2021

OCTOBER 24 TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION SUNDAY: Next Sunday, October 24th will be Truth and Reconciliation Sunday at Stony Plain/Mewassin. As individuals and Communities of Faith, we are called to understand the past relations with Indigenous Peoples in our country, and work to build bridges toward true reconciliation. We will have a guest joining us who will help us discover ways we can implement the 'Calls to Action' cited in the Report on Truth and Reconciliation, in ways that are meaningful.

GROUP STUDY. Are you interested in a Zoom group study gathering? Please let Heather know. There are three great studies we will choose from as a group, so the sooner we know numbers the better. None of these require much independent reading so the time commitment is not especially heavy. Day and time to be determined.

OCTOBER IS REHOBOTH MEMBERSHIP MONTH! We invite you to become a Rehoboth member and partner with our ministry of supporting persons with developmental disabilities. Membership fees are \$10 each and additional donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Look for the 'October is Membership Month' envelope on the table in the narthex. Alternatively, a digital online submission is available through <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/donate/donation-form/> Thank you for your prayerful consideration. There are 2 important corrections for the newsletter.

- We Remember: David's date should be December 2020 not April 2021
- Job posting wage range should be \$16.15 - \$22.32

Also, to access the Flourish Newsletter online here is the link: The newsletter is now live on the website and available here: <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/about/flourish-newsletter/>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KEEP IN TOUCH PROGRAM Keep In Touch is an innovative senior callers' program developed to support seniors' overall well-being by connecting participants with volunteers who, through a weekly telephone support system, take the time to talk and listen. We need VOLUNTEERS who are willing to make weekly phone calls. Volunteers are provided with a training guide, a 1 hour training session and support as needed. Volunteers need to be at least 18 years old, complete a Neighbourlink Parkland volunteer application and provide a criminal record check.

Call Neighbourlink's office 780-960-9669 for more information!