

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
APRIL 21, 2024

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

STONY PLAIN: Annual General Meeting
After Church Today

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

In the darkest valley,
at the banquet table;
in the hard work of life,
at the moments of ease;
in our day-to-day reality,
at times set aside—
like this time, now—
for worship, for listening, for paying attention;
with every step we take:
goodness and mercy follow us;
our cups overflow.

Written by Joanna Harader and posted on **Spacious Faith**. <https://spaciousfaith.com/> Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

Written by Brian Draper, and posted on the *Monthly Prayers* page of the [Christian Aid](#) website.
Adapted. Used with permission.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Posted on cloudfront.net. Used with permission.

HYMN: VU #395 “Come In, Come In and Sit Down”

REFRAIN: Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.

Verse 1: You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part of the family.

REFRAIN

Verse 2: God is with us in this place, like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace, for we are a part of the family.

**REFRAIN: Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.**

Verse 3: There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine; we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine, but we are a part of the family.

REFRAIN

Verse 4: There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family.

REFRAIN

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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.

AND LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD FOR OUR LIVES

GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir "My Savior"

Words by Nancy Price and Don Besig; Music by Don Besig

THEME TIME

HYMN: VU #412 "This Is the Day"

Verse 1: This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.

Verse 2: Open to us, open to us your gates, O God, your gates, O God;
we will go in, we will go in, to your holy place, to your holy place.

Open to us your gates, O God, we will go in to your holy place.

Open to us, open to us your gates, O God.

Verse 3: You are our God, you are our God, we will praise your name, we will praise your name;
we will give thanks, we will give thanks, for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.

You are our God, we will praise your name, we will give thanks for your faithfulness.

You are our God, you are our God, we will praise your name.

Words: v.1 unknown; vv. 2,3 R. G. Hobbs 1987. Music: Fijian folk melody arr. Darryl Nixon 1987. Words v. 2,3 and arr. copyright © 1987, 1995 Songs for a Gospel People

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

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A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS: Acts 4:1-12

GOSPEL LESSON: John 10:11-18

REFLECTION: “Travelling with the Shepherd”

A READING BASED ON Psalm 23 “Through Light and Shadow”

Written by Sally, and posted on **Eternal Echoes**. http://sallysjourney.typepad.com/sallys_journey/ Used with permission.

HYMN: VU #700 “God of Freedom, God of Justice”

Verse 1

God of freedom, God of justice, you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison, you who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression with your Spirit’s healing breath.

Verse 2: Rid the earth of torture’s terror, you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest, you who shed the tears and blood:
move in us the power of pity restless for the common good.

Verse 3: Make in us a captive conscience quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers of whatever race or creed:
teach us to be fully human, open to each other’s need.

Words Shirley Erena Murray, 1980; Music: French traditional carol 17th c. Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION**INVITATION TO GIVE**

OFFERTORY: VU #539 “God of All Good” Verse 3 (Tune VU #501)

Maker, whose bounty all creation shows, Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live,
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows, to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

Words: Albert F. Bayly 1962 alt. Music (VU #501) Mary A. Lathbury 1877 By permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-718663

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Unison)

God, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Guide, and our God. Amen.

.AND WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: Psalm 23: VU #748 “God is My Shepherd”**Verse 1**

God is my shepherd, I'll not want, I feed in pastures green.
 God grants me rest and bids me drink from waters calm and clean.
 Through daily tasks, I'm blessed and led by one I have not seen.

Verse 2: Restored to life each morning new, I rise up from the dust
 to follow God whose presence gives me confidence and trust.
 I praise the name of God today; in God I put my trust.

Verse 3: When I must pass through shadowed vale, where loss and death await,
 I will not fear for God is there, my shepherd strong and great,
 whose rod and staff will comfort me and all my fears abate.

Verse 4: No enemy can overcome, no power on earth defeat
 the ones anointed by God's grace and fed with manna sweet.
 My cup is filled and overflows as I my Saviour greet.

Verse 5: Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;
 and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwelling place will be. My shepherd blesses, cares,
 and leads through all eternity.

Words: Scottish Psalter 1650, adapt. Lavon Bayler 1992 Music: James Leith Macbeth Bain 1915, harm. Gordon Jacob 1934, Adapt. Walter W. Felton 1955 Words adaptation copyright © 1992 The Pilgrim Press Harmony by permission of Oxford University Press Used with permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-718663

CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US**COMMISSIONING**

Excerpted from a longer prayer by St. Columba. Adapted. Used with permission.

BLESSING**SUNG RESPONSE: VU #556 “Would You Bless Our Homes and Families” Verse 3**

From the homes in which we're nurtured, with the love that shapes us there,
 teach us, God, to claim as family every one whose life we share.
 And through all that life may offer, may we in your love remain;
 may the love we share in families be alive to praise your name.

Words by Walter Farquharson 1974; Music by Ron Klusmeier 1974. Words © 1977 Walter Farquharson; Music © 1977 Ron Klusmeier. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we come together, we respectfully acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory of Alberta, Regions 2, 3 and 4 within the historical Northwest Métis Homeland. .
 We honour all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We recognize that many have come throughout the years to make this place their home. As treaty People, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, we share the responsibility of finding authentic ways to ensure that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 6 is honoured and respected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 21, 2024

NEW

SUNDAY APRIL 28 STONY PLAIN: The Men's Club will be serving breakfast next Sunday morning, April 28, starting around 8:45 am.

UCW WED MAY 1, 2024 1:30 PM – FOR EVERYONE!: The guest speaker will be from the town of Stony Plain. The topic is the proposed Stony Plain Cemetery. Every interested person is welcome. Our business meeting will follow the presentation.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR TIA BISSOONDATT SAT MAY 4 AT HERITAGE PARK:

Many of you may remember Tia, who attended our church with her Grandmother before Covid. We were very sorry to hear that she passed away after a lengthy illness at age 15. Tia's life will be celebrated through sharing memories, snacks, crafts, playing games and time with loved ones on Sat May 4 at Heritage Park, 5100 41 Ave. Stony Plain in the Spruce Grove hall from 6 pm to 11 pm.

REMINDERS

If you're reading this before Friday, April 19: CHOCOLATE/MUSIC NIGHT FRIDAY APRIL 19 DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM: Tickets are still available! Come join us for a variety of live performances, a delicious array of chocolate treats and a chance at 5 great door prizes! Questions or info? Call or text Darren (587) 926-8898 or email darren_snopek@hotmail.com. Tickets: youth 13-16 are \$20, adult 16+ \$35 are available at the office during the week (cash or cheque,) or online at eventbrite.com all the time (no added fees) DRESS TO IMPRESS!

REMINDER: STONY PLAIN AGM SUNDAY APRIL 21: The Annual General Meeting for Stony Plain United Church will be on Sunday, April 21 after church.

MEW: KEEPHILLS HALL PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Keephills Hall is having another pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 28, 2024 from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Attend church at 9:00 and then go enjoy pancakes, sausages and all the trimmings. Special guests are Sparky the mascot and Parkland Fire Services who will be handing out goodies. Advance tickets prices are \$10.00/adult, under 12 \$5.00. Tickets at the door are \$15.00/adult. Hope you can make it out.

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

COMMUNITY AND UNITED CHURCH EVENTS

PARKAND BELLS MAY 4: Parkland Bells, the Handbell Choir of St. Andrew's UC, is presenting 2 concerts on **Sat. May 4: 3:30 pm and 7:00 pm** at St. Andrew's United Church (1A Fieldstone Drive, Spruce Grove). Free tickets are available from the Church Office at 780 962-0488.

CHALMERS –CASTLE DOWNS UNITED CHURCH: They have 2 events coming up::

Sat. April 27: Church Rummage and Bake Sale 9 am to 3 pm

Sat. May 11: Bluegrass and Dessert, featuring Prairie Sky Band. 2 to 4 pm. Tickets \$25 or 3 for \$60, Children 12 and under, free. For tickets, call 780 455=3664 or get them at the door.

Church address: 12315 – 132 Ave. NW, Edmonton, AB

BRIDGE TO CARE OPEN HOUSE FRI. MAY 31: This non-profit Healthcare and Community Service group has recently moved its corporate office back to Stony Plain. You are invited for a blessing of their new space, a delicious meal, games, activities and fun on Fri. May 31 from 3 pm to 6 pm at 4902 50th Ave., Stony Plain. RSVP to Aysha Patterson at 780 591-1000 Ext 8 or alysha@bridgetocare.org.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukulele Group **Wednesdays, 6:15 pm**
Choir **Wednesdays, 7 pm**
Card Recreators: **Thursdays, 10 am**

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday April 19 **Live Music & Chocolate Night**
Sunday Apr 21 **Stony Plain AGM after church**
Sunday Apr 28 **SP 8:45 am Breakfast**
Wed. May 1 **1:30 pm UCW Meeting open to all**