

STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
OCTOBER 18, 2026 – Creation 6
World Food 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**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

BACKGROUND ON WORLD FOOD DAY

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 Joanna Harader and posted on www.spaciousfaith.com Used with permission.

GATHERING PRAYER

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GATHERING HYMN: MV #12**“Come Touch Our Hearts”**

Verse 1 Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
 From failing embers build a blazing fire;
 Love strong enough to overturn injustice,
 To seek a world more gracious,
 Come touch and bless our hearts.

Verse 2 Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
 Your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
 Create a space for spirit to grow in us,
 Let life and beauty fill us,
 Come touch and bless our souls.

Verse 3 Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
 Set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
 Help us to open doors of understanding,
 To welcome truth and wisdom,
 Come touch and bless our minds.

Verse 4 Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
 And in our weakness your great strength reveal;
 That we may rise to follow and to serve,
 Steady now our nerve,
 Come touch and bless our wills.

Verse 5 Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,
 To break the bread and share the cup of peace;
 That we may love you with our heart, our soul,
 Our mind, our strength, our all,
 Come touch us with your grace.

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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 rice and its varieties*

HYMN: MV #42 **“Praise God for This Holy Ground”**

Verse 1 Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Verse 2 Praise God in whose word we find food for body, soul and mind.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Verse 3 Praise God who through Christ makes known all are loved and called God's own.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Verse 4 Praise God's Spirit who befriends, raises, humbles, breaks and mends.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Verse 5 Though Praise ends, praise is begun where God's will is gladly done.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READINGS: SPUC Reader: Barb Somers

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A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES **Micah 4:1-5**

THE GOSPEL LESSON **Luke 4:14-20**

SERMON by Rev. Deborah Hoekstra **“Hunger is Preventable”**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, CONFESSION AND INTERCESSION

Written by Gordon Brew, Canadian Baptist Ministries. Shared with permission.

HYMN (seated) VU #520 **“We Plough the Fields”**

Verse 1 We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by your almighty hand;

you send the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
we thank you, God, O holy God, for all your love.**

Verse 2 You only are the maker of all things near and far;
you paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star;
the winds and waves obey you, by you, the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children, you give us daily bread.

Refrain:

Verse 3 We thank you then, O Maker, for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,
and, what from us you long for, our humble, thankful hearts.

Refrain:

Words: Matthias Claudius 1782; frans. Jane Montgomery Campbell 1861, alt.
Music: Johann Abraham Peter Schulz 1900 Public Domain

THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION
WORDS OF INVITATION (*Responsive*)

The world in need awaits our offering.

**Our offering of time, talents, and treasures can make a difference,
here and around the world.**

The needs of our community and of the world are many.

We sometimes feel as if we cannot possibly make a difference.

Yet, we are called to work together

**and to realize that, in caring together, the results are multiplied
beyond our imagination.**

Let us give our hearts, ourselves, and our lives.

The offering will be received.

Written by Beth W. Johnston. **Gathering Pentecost 2 (Year A)** page 44. Used with permission.

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 (*Unison*)

Creator God, You love all that you have made. You have filled our hearts with your love and desire that no one would go hungry, that all may live in peace with everything they need. Continue to fill us with your passion and compassion for others, to seek true and just peace in all circumstances, in supporting others, in working for justice, and in feeding the hungry. Guide us, we pray. Amen

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WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD
CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US
CLOSING HYMN: VU #236
“Now Thank We All Our God”

Verse 1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother’s arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Verse 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

Verse 3 All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
for thus it was, is now, and shall be forevermore.

Words: Martin Rinckart ca. 1636, English trans. Catherine Winkworth 1858, alt. Music: Johann Crüger 1647. Public Domain.

COMMISSIONING

Written by Alydia Smith. Posted on <https://united-church.ca/prayers/prayer-food-security>. 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 18, 2026

MEWASSIN

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

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.

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 form to Cathy Yamada-Swan or leave at the church office, with cheques payable to Catherine Yamada. 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 Call or text Cathy at [825-966-8562](tel:825-966-8562) or email cymada70@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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

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**. Susan Oleskiw will be 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 COMM. 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 regarding Rehoboth or this campaign, 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. 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: Lisa Furry
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: TBD MEW Presider: Fran Scherlie

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

Mon. Oct 19	Referendum vote
Wed. Oct 2	6pm MEW Sustainable discussion & chili supper in Church
Fri. Oct 30	5pm-6pm SP Fall Supper in Church
Sun Dec 13	Cantata supper event