**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH**
**November 15, 2026**
**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!**

Join **Zoom Meeting** via computer (with password) **DO NOT POST ON WEB OR FACEBOOK**
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364019239?pwd=TlEyd2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlp4Y3Q4UT09
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

*Thanks to Rev. Sharon McRann for presiding today,*
*And for preparing the service.*

**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.**
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**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** ***(Responsive)***
What does the Lord require of us?
**To seek justice,**
**to love kindness,**
**and walk humbly with our God.**
Who are we called to be?
**We are called to be the Church:**
**to celebrate God's presence,**
**to live with respect in Creation,**
**to love and serve others.**
Why do we gather for worship
**We gather as an outpouring of gratitude and awe**
**and a practice of opening ourselves**
**to God's still, small voice of comfort, and**
**to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.**
Let us worship God together!
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**GATHERING PRAYER (responsive)**
**Creator God, you have made each of us in your image,**
and yet we fail to reflect your love and justice.
**You have created every child in your image,**
and yet we don't treat every child as a precious reflection of you.
**We see some children as valued treasures,**
and others as lost causes.
**We invest our time, money, and hopes in some children,**
while we squander the great potential of others.
**Open our eyes, we pray, to see that every child**
**is made in your image and belongs to you.**
Help us to love, protect, and nurture all children.
**We pray these things**
**in the name of the One who came to us as a child. Amen.**
*(CGP 19I004)*

**GATHERING HYMN:** VU #400 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" 2X
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!
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**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**
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**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 CHOIR ANTHEM** "A Sunday School Celebration"
Arranged by Larry Shackley

**THEME TIME *Suggestion:*** "A Creation story…" or…

**HYMN:** VU #365 "Jesus Loves Me"
**Verse 1** Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, in his love we shall be strong.

**Refrain:**
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

**Verse 2** Jesus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

**Refrain:**
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

**Verse 3** Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

**Refrain:**
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.
Words: Verse 1 Anna Bartlett Warner 1869, verses 2 and 3 David Rutherford McGuire 1970. Music: William Batchelder Bradbury 1862. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**
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**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**
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**Matthew 18:1-6** (True Greatness) "Jesus uses a young child as a living lesson for His disciples on humility, welcoming others, and the seriousness of leading believers astray."

**Proverbs 31: 8-9** (Speak Out) "A call to advocate for the vulnerable and practice justice."

**Luke 10:25-37** (The Good Samaritan) Jesus asks a lawyer what is written in the Law; the lawyer replies that one must love God with all their heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love their neighbour as themselves. Jesus tells him to go and do likewise, and the lawyer asks, "Who is my neighbour?"

**SERMON by Rev. Sharon McRann** "All God's Children"

**PRAYER** (one voice)

**HYMN** ***(seated)*** VU #600 "When I Needed a Neighbour"

**Verse 1** When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

**Verse 2** I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

**Verse 3** I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

**Verse 4** When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

**Verse 5** Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there.
Wherever you travel I'll be there.
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.

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## THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

**INVITATION** ***(Responsive)***

There are hearts in the world and in this community that are breaking.
**There are stomachs in the world and in this community that are hungry.**
There are souls in the world and in this community awaiting a word of promise.
**We offer our gifts to bring God's healing, hope, and promise to all.**

Written by Francis Flook. **Gathering 2016** *Pentecost 2 (Year C)* page 42. Used with permission.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** ***(Unison)***

We give thanks in this moment, O God, for all that has been given and shared. Bless us and our gifts, through which much may be accomplished in your name. Amen.

Written by Connie McNamara, Gathering 2016 Pentecost 2 (Year C) pg. 43 Used with permission

**OFFERTORY MV #191** ***(2X)*** **"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.**

Words and music: Raul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore 2005

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**Prayers of the People (one voice)**

## WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

**CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US**

**SENDING HYMN: MV #171** "Christ has no body now but yours"
**REFRAIN:**
**Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.**
**Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**Verse 1** No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
no hands but yours to soothe all its suffering,
no touch but yours to bind the broken hope of the people of God.

**REFRAIN:**
**Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.**
**Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**Verse 2** No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
to find the lost, to gaze with compassion;
no eyes but yours to glimpse the holy joy of the city of God.

**REFRAIN:**
**Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.**
**Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**Verse 3** No feet but yours to journey with the poor,
To walk this world with mercy and justice.
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace for the children of God.

**REFRAIN:**
**Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.**
**Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**Verse 4** Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need:
As Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,
With ev'ry gift a benediction, be to the people of God.

**REFRAIN:**
**Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.**
**Here on this earth, yours is the work, to serve with the joy of compassion.**

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**PRAYER** **"A Clown's Prayer"** (in unison)
As I stumble through this life,
help me to create more laughter than tears,
dispense more happiness than gloom,
spread more cheer than despair.

Never let me become so indifferent
that I fail to see the wonder
in the eyes of a child,
or a twinkle in the eyes of the aged.

Never let me forget that my total effort
is to cheer people, make them happy,
and help them forget at least for a moment,
all the unpleasantness in their lives.

And in my final moment
may I hear You whisper:
"When you made my people smile,
you made Me smile." Amen.
Author Unknown

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION** ***(Responsive)***
Go out and be as children!
R**ejoicing in our friendships;**
**and praising joyfully.**
Go out and be as children!
**Noticing the flying clouds**
**and having fun in the pouring rain.**
Go out and be as children!
**Trusting wholeheartedly**
**and taking time to linger on the way home.**
Go out and be as children!
**Laughing at life's disappointments**
**and making the most of the setbacks that come to us.**
Go out and be as children!
And experience the love of God, the compassion of Christ
and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.
Go as a little child.
*David Sparks, Gathering Magazine Pentecost2 2016 (Year C) pg.49. Adapted*

**SPUC TLUS #105** ***(2X)*** **"May You Be Held"**
**May you be held,**
**may you be held in the love,**
**In the love of God.**
Words and music: Juanita Austin, 2017 words and music 2017 Raven Spirit press. All rights reserved.

**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 NOVEMBER 15, 2026

**MEWASSIN**

**STONY PLAIN**

**SAT. NOV 21/26 10am – 12 noon UCW Muffin Café, Bake and Craft sale.** Craft and baking donations are appreciated. Please wrap and label ready for sale. Clean, clear, repurposed food rated containers can be used. **Set up is in the afternoon of Nov 20.**

**TUE. NOV 24/26 7pm – Council meeting** There will be a council meeting upstairs in the boardroom.

**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 780 963-4745.

**SUN. DEC 13/26 Please save the date** - Christmas Cantata/Supper event.

**COMMUNITY**

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

**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 15/26** | **Rev. Deborah on holidays Rev. Sharon McRann in person** |
| **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.** |
| **Sun. Dec 6/26** | **Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW.** |

**WEEKLY & RECURRING ACTIVITIES**

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

**MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sat. Nov 21** | **10am-12noon UCW SP Muffin Café Bake & Craft Sales in Church** |
| **Tue. Nov 24** | **7pm Council meeting upstairs in boardroom SP** |
| **Sun Dec 13** | **Cantata supper event SP** |