



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
February 11, 2018



### Transfiguration Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor  
Reader: Ila Wilms  
Pianist: Mary Anderson

### GATHERING

#### Moment for Reflection

*It is during our darkest moments  
that we must focus to see the light.  
- Aristotle*

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Sharing of Peace/Prelude

#### Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Hymn: **VU #96 Will You Come and See the Light**  
*(verses 1 & 2) (please remain seated)*

#### Call to Worship

ONE: What can we do on this last Sunday of Epiphany  
when the Christmas lights are put away,  
shepherds have returned to their fields and  
the star of magi has vanished?

**ALL: We can come into God's presence  
seeking the light of renewal.**

ONE: What can we do on this last Sunday of Epiphany  
when our skies are mostly grey,  
and we ourselves feel stuck in a rut and  
in need of a vacation?

**ALL: We can come into God's presence  
seeking the light of renewal.**

## Worship Schedule

*Lenten Movie Series*

Feb 18	Lent One – Darkest Hour	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 25	Lent Two – Lady Bird - with baptism	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Mar 4	Lent Three – The Post	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Mar 11	Lent Four – Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Mar 18	Lent Five – The Shape of Water	- Rev. Annette Taylor

#### Recent Events

Monday, February 5 – Bruce Stewart Memorial Service

## Call to Government: Help End Libya's Slave Trade



**The United Church of Canada is calling on the government to live out its promise to help end criminal, inhuman trade of Africans in Libya.**

In November of last year, a video surfaced online of men appearing to be sold at auction in Libya. The footage caused outcry in all corners of the globe, and focused international attention on the exploitation of migrants and refugees in the North African country.

As such, in solidarity with Mission & Service partners in Africa such as the [All Africa Conference of Churches \(AACC\)](#), The United Church of Canada is urging the Canadian government to fulfill its promise of working “to eradicate human trafficking and support all international efforts to bring those who prey on vulnerable people to justice.”

*(continued on back of bulletin)*

ONE: What can we do on this last Sunday of Epiphany  
if we have forgotten the message of Christmas  
our gifts have lost their newness and  
spring is far away?

**ALL: We can come into God's presence  
seeking the light of renewal.**

From: Fern Gibbard, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2017-2018, p. 49.

**Opening Hymn: VU #82 A Light is Gleaming**  
*(please stand as you are able)*

**Opening Prayer and Jesus' Prayer**

**Holy Mystery, we give you thanks  
for all the ways that you illuminate our lives:  
from the beam of your wisdom  
that shines forth from scripture and prayer  
to the occasional mountaintop experiences  
where we can bask in your glory.  
In the sparkle of care in our loved ones' eyes  
to the bright smile of greeting from a stranger.  
your love radiates out to us.**

**Set us aglow for others  
with your wisdom, love and glory.**

Adapted from: Karen Boivin, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany  
2017-2018, p. 50.

## WORD

**Hymn: VU #585 Jesus Bids Us Shine** (vs. 1-3)  
*(please remain seated)*

**Community Learning Time** - Melanie Davis

**Hymn: VU #585 Jesus Bids Us Shine** (verse 1 again)  
*(please remain seated)*

**Scripture Reading: Mark 9:2-9**

ONE: We read this text so that in it we may find wisdom for life.

**ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.**

**Reflection: Light for the Journey**

**Choral Offering: How Then Shall I Live**  
*by Linnea Good*

## RESPONSE

**Minute for Mission: Blessing the Dolls (Leprosy Mission)**

**Offering**

**Offertory Hymn: VU #55 In the Bleak Midwinter** (verse 4)  
*(please stand as you are able)*

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Ever-present God,  
with this offering, we present ourselves:  
all that we have been,  
all that we are,  
all that we shall become,  
and our resolve to walk in your way.  
Accept us and our offering.  
Amen.**

Adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence*, page 50.

**Prayers of the People**

**Closing Hymn: This Li'l Light of Mine** (African/American spiritual)  
*(please stand as you are able)*

**Commissioning & Benediction**

**Choral Closing: VU #964 Go Now in Peace**

**Postlude**

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**Lectionary Readings for February 18, 2018**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31 (VU p.746 Parts Three & Four)

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38 (note : we are switching Lent One & Two)

*(continued from previous page)*

Moderator Jordan Cantwell has written to the Prime Minister ([see letter](#)), urging him to commit to specific principles in how the government responds to the illegal trade of migrants globally, including in Libya.

As people of faith, the United Church is called to stand in solidarity with migrant workers and African partners in unequivocally condemning this abhorrent treatment of fellow human beings, made in the image of God. The full statement by the All Africa Conference of Churches is available [here](#).

The United Church is committed to working with partners around the world to protect, promote, and support the rights of migrant workers who are vulnerable to human trafficking and other abuses.

For more information, please contact:

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