



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
January 21, 2018



3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Brenda Gruetzner
Pianist: Mary Anderson

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*
- The Iona Community (VU #567)

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 & 3) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: God has called us to this place

**ALL: where we can hear the stories
that have formed us as a people.**

ONE: God has called us to add our names

**ALL: to the long list of those
who have followed.**

ONE: God has called us to hear the story

ALL: so that we can respond to the call.

ONE: God calls and we respond:

ALL: “Here I am; send me.”

Adapted from: Beth W Johnston, *Gathering* Advent/Christmas/Epiphany,
page 40.

Worship Schedule

Jan 28	Unclean Spirits - with communion	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 4	Healing Spirit	- To be determined
Feb 11	Transfiguration Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 18	Lent One	- Rev Annette Taylor

Recent Events

Monday, January 15 - Margaret Fuller Funeral Service

Boundary Commission Interim Report



The Boundaries Commission is proposing 17 regional councils to replace Conferences and presbyteries.

After extensive consultations across the church, the [interim report](#) from the Boundaries Commission is proposing 17 regional councils be established on January 1, 2019, if Remit 1 (Three Council Model) is passed at the 43rd General Council in July 2018.

A map showing the boundary lines for the new regional councils across the country is available online. Each pastoral charge is colour-coded and identified by shape in relation to its regional council in [this map](#).

One significant early decision of the Commission was to honour a request from the Caretakers of Our Indigenous Circle. They had prepared the “Calls to the Church” document regarding the future place of the Indigenous Church within The United Church of Canada (pages 56–67 of the complete [GCE Workbook November 18-20 2017](#).)

Opening Hymn: VU #410 This Day God Gives Me (*verses 1-3*)
(*please stand as you are able*)

Opening Prayer and Jesus' Prayer

You call us, Holy Mystery.

**You cast your line and hope to catch us,
hooking us in with your unending grace.**

**You call us, and then
you send us out to fish for others.**

**When you say, "Come follow me,"
our hearts leap in both fear and wonder.**

**You have called us
and we are here
ready to be reeled in by your love.**

Adapted from: Susan Lukey, *Gathering Advent/Christmas/Epiphany*,
page 42.

WORD

Hymn: VU #575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (*vs. 1-3*)
(*please stand as you are able*)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: VU #575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (*verse 4*)
(*please remain seated*)

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:14-20

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: Follow Me

Choral Offering: Here I Am, Lord
- Dan Schutte

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Fresh Start

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: VU #567 Will You Come and Follow Me
(*please stand as you are able*)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: VU #964 Go Now in Peace

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for January 28, 2018

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

(continued from previous page)

Consistent with these Calls, the Caretakers asked the Commission to honour the intent of the Indigenous Church to engage in a distinct process to decide their relationships within the new church structure.

Feedback and suggestions on this interim decision will be accepted until **January 31, 2018**, at remits@united-church.ca. If any church court (pastoral charge, presbytery, Conference) has a suggestion for a specific change, that court's governing body must pass a motion naming the requested change. The motion can then be e-mailed to regchange@united-church.ca by January 31, 2018.

The Commission will receive and study all feedback and make decisions on all the requested changes. It will release its final report no later than March 15, 2018, outlining the final boundaries of the new regional councils.

Boundaries Commission Chairperson, the Rev. Andrew Richardson, hosted a YouTube Live event on the Commission's processes on January 15, 2018. It was recorded and is available on www.youtube.com/unitedchurchofcanada.