



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
November 12, 2017

Remembrance/Peace Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Adam Ferguson
Pianist: Mary Anderson

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"Peace comes from within.
Do not seek it without."
- Buddha*

*"Peace begins with a smile."
- Mother Teresa*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #12 Come Touch Our Hearts
(verses 1 & 2) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: In silent fields, poppies blow.

ALL: In empty streets, silence dwells.

ONE: In vacant rooms, photos sit.

**ALL: The impact of war does not end
with a pen or a parade.**

ONE: Into the silence, the emptiness, the sorrow,

**ALL: let us bring the peace, the song,
the hope of Holy Love.**

Adapted from: Robin Wardlaw, *Gathering* Pentecost 2 2015, page 47.

Worship Schedule

Nov 19	Parable of the Talents	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 26	Children's Sunday	- Sunday School & Youth Group
Dec 3	Advent One – Hope - with communion	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Dec 10	Advent Two – Peace	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Recent Events

Thursday, November 9th – Alex Gader Funeral Service

Canadian Government Matching Donations to Rohingya Crisis



The crisis facing the Rohingya people fleeing to Bangladesh continues to deepen. Exact numbers are unknown, but some estimates are as high as 900,000 people having arrived in Bangladesh. Bangladesh, one of the poorest nations in the world, has little capacity to respond to the extreme needs

and high numbers of displaced Rohingya people.

Mission & Service partner ACT Alliance, in part supported by contributions from The United Church of Canada, is responding. ACT Alliance is focused on food security, water and sanitation, health and nutrition, and shelter.

(see back of bulletin)

Opening Hymn: VU p.806 O God, Our Help in Ages Past
(please stand as you are able)

An Act of Remembrance & Opening Prayer

ONE: Remember the people, men and women, who have died in active service,

ALL: And we remember their friends and family members who still feel deep grief.

- Weep for the Dead (v1) - James McLauchlan

ONE: Remember the men and women who still suffer the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wounds of war.

ALL: And we remember civilians, bombed, shelled, and driven from their homes, and refugees living in camps without hope of a new life.

- Weep for the Dead (v3)

ONE: Holy Mystery,
we pray that in our remembering
we may find the inspiration and courage
to prepare the way for your vision of peace.

- Weep for the Dead (v4)

Adapted from: David Sparks, *Gathering Pentecost 2 2017*, page 48-49.

The Lord's Prayer

WORD

Hymn: MV #149 Peace for the Children
(verses 1 to 5) (please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #149 Peace for the Children
(verses 7 & 10) (please remain seated)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

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: Peace in the Soul

Choral Offering: Peace Like a River
African-American Spiritual
arranged by Donald Moore

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Edge Social Innovation Challenge

Offering

Offertory Hymn: MV #191 What Can I Do?
(please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Dedication

**With all that we have,
with all that we are,
we come to you
the Ground of our Being
knowing that all that we offer ,
is blessed by your love!**

Amen.

Adapted from: Richard Bott, *Gathering Pentecost 2 2017-2018*, page 44.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: Peace is the Way *(please stand as you are able)*
by Jim Strathdee

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #214 May God's Sheltering Wings

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for November 19, 2017

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123 (VU p.847)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

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The United Church of Canada is [accepting donations for the needs of the Rohingya people](#). The Canadian government has announced that it will [match eligible donations](#) made until **November 28**.

ACT Alliance reports from the ground, “A majority of people are staying in the open air, suffering from trauma, exhaustion, sickness and hunger. Many people are arriving hungry, exhausted and with no food or water. Most of them have walked 50/60 kilometers for up to six days. More than 36,000 children (aged one or less) are the most vulnerable. They are living in conditions that are prime for the spread of diseases.”

Please include the displaced Rohingya people in your prayers.