



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
October 29, 2017

Stewardship Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Stacie Noble-Wiebe
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Organist: Patti McCleary

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*“To embody God’s love in the world,
the work of the church requires
the ministry and discipleship of all believers.”*
- from *A Song of Faith*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #185 Ev’ry Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship *(Based on A Song of Faith)*

ONE: The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy,

**ALL: not only in what is familiar,
but also in that which seems foreign.**

ONE: We sing of the Spirit,

**ALL: who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
transforming us and the world.**

ONE: We offer worship,

**ALL: as an outpouring of gratitude and awe
and a practice of opening ourselves
to God’s still, small voice of comfort,
to God’s rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

Worship Schedule

Nov 5	All Saints Sunday - with baptisms	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 12	Remembrance/Peace Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 19	Parable of the Talents	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 26	Children’s Sunday	- Sunday School & Youth Group

Lectionary Readings for All Saints Sunday - Nov. 5

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalms 34 :1-10, 22 (VU pp.761-762)

1 John 3 :1-3

Matthew 5 :1-12

Thursdays in Black End Gender-based Violence



God cares for those who suffer, and calls on us to work with each other for the healing of the world. The United Church’s Song of Faith (2006) lifts up the church’s purpose, including “fierce love in the face of violence, [and] human dignity defended.”

Sex- and gender-based violence is deeply rooted in our cultures, institutions, and religions. It affects ourselves, those we love, and our communities, country, and world. In particular, as [Canada’s National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#) continues, we pray that it will listen and respond to the concerns of the families, uncover the systemic causes of this violence, and provide concrete ways to address it. *(see back of bulletin)*

ONE: Through word, music, art, and sacrament,
in community and in solitude,
the Holy Mystery changes
our lives, our relationships, and our world.

ALL: We sing with thankfulness and praise.

Adapted from: *We Sing Thanksgiving*, page 69

Opening Hymn: VU #232 Joyful, Joyful We Adore You
(please stand as you are able)

Morning Prayer and Jesus' Prayer

Inviting and Welcoming God

We gather this morning,
to raise our voices in celebration and thanksgiving
for this community.

We gather this morning,
desiring a closer relationship
with our neighbours and with you.

We gather this morning,
seeking to understand your mission,
and our place in it.

Creating and revealing God,

We gather this morning,
with hopeful and expectant hearts,
knowing that on this day, in this place,
here, at First United Church,
we will meet you face to face.

Amen!

From: *We Sing Thanksgiving*, page 70

WORD

Hymn: VU #575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
(verses 1-3) (please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

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: Why I Give

Choral Offering: Gratitude

Nichole Nordeman & Heather Sorenson

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Breaking Down Stereotypes

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: VU #510 We Have This Ministry
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #215 Peace Be with You

Postlude

(continued from previous page)

Gender-based violence can be experienced in many ways. This is violence rooted in gender norms, or social expectations, that are arbitrary and discriminatory. It includes

- domestic violence and rape
- date rape
- trafficking of women and girls
- female genital mutilation
- child marriage and forced marriage
- ill-treatment of women, girls, and LGBTQ+ people in the criminal justice system

Transgender, intersex, and non-binary-conforming people, and lesbian and bisexual women, are at increased risk for violence. They may face corrective rape, forced impregnation, or physical attacks. Men and boys, it should be acknowledged, may also experience violence that stems from socially determined norms and expectations.

This type of violence does not operate in isolation. For example, racialized and Indigenous women are more likely to face violence. And women who experience domestic and sexual violence can be pushed into a cycle of poverty. For more information, see the United Nations' [Report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment](#).

Working to end rape and violence is an important part of creating a world where all people are valued. As a member of the World Council of Churches (WCC, a worldwide fellowship of Christian churches), the United Church takes part in the [Thursdays in Black](#) campaign against sex- and gender-based violence. Through the simple gesture of collectively wearing black, participants create an international public witness for a global movement urging an end to rape and violence.

Every Thursday, individuals and congregations are encouraged to stand in solidarity with all people who bear the scars of violence and demand an end to gender-based violence.