



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK

October 8, 2017

Thanksgiving Sunday

Worship Leader: Rev. Annette Taylor

Reader: Marie Andrews

Pianist: Joan Williamson

Organist: Patti McCleary

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

“Gratitude can

*transform common days into thanksgivings,
turn routine jobs into joy, and
change ordinary opportunities into blessings.”*

– William Arthur Ward

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

ONE: God has given us this beautiful earth,
all that grows, all that lives upon it.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ONE: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ONE: God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

**ALL: Let us celebrate God's presence
with love, thanksgiving, and praise.**

Adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence*, page 22.

Opening Hymn: VU #227 For the Fruit of All Creation

(please stand as you are able)

Worship Schedule

Oct 15	World Food Sunday - potluck lunch	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Oct 22	Mission & Service Sunday	- Outreach Committee
Oct 29	Stewardship Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Nov 5	All Saints Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Recent Events

October 5, 2017 – Cy Wiskar Celebration of Life

The UCC Disaster Response



Hurricane Irma caused flooding and damage to the northern regions of the Dominican Republic.

Credit: ACT Alliance

Hurricanes in the Caribbean

The United Church of Canada works with several churches and agencies throughout the Caribbean region.

Our membership in the global ACT Alliance will provide multiple ways that the church can assist people affected by Hurricane Irma (and others). ACT members are organized in various regional and national forums (including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Cuba) that are working quickly to assist with evacuations and emergency shelter where necessary, and to plan for post-storm responses.

In addition, the United Church will assist bilateral partners such as the region-wide Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA), the Cuban Council of Churches, and the Karl Lévéque Cultural Institute in Haiti as they organize their responses.

The [United Church of Canada is accepting donations](#) for relief efforts related to hurricanes in the Caribbean. *(see back of bulletin)*

Opening Prayer and Jesus' Prayer

ONE: For all that is...

ALL: we thank you, God!

ONE: For joy fulfilled...

ALL: we thank you, God!

ONE: For sorrow survived...

ALL: we thank you, God!

ONE: For grain from the earth,
for rain from the sky,
for our nights and days..

ALL: we thank you, God!

ONE: With words of gratitude,
with songs of praise,
with our prayer,
with our worship...

ALL: we thank you, God!

Amen.

Adapted from: Richard Bott, *Gathering Pentecost 2 2017*, page 43.

WORD

Hymn: VU #644 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry
(please remain seated)

The Celebration of Baptism

Clara Lily Anne Jacobson

Parents: Karen & Denny Jacobson

Godparents: Adam and Melinda Dawe

Scripture Readings:

Luke 17:11-19

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: An Attitude of Gratitude

Choral Offering: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker
- Ruth Duck & Ron Klusmeier

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Celebrating Decades of Solidarity

Offering

Offertory Hymn: MV #182 Grateful

(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*, page 44.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: VU #520 We Plough the Fields and Scatter
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #215 Peace Be with You

Postlude

*“Thank you' is the best prayer that anyone could say.
I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude,
humility, and understanding.”* – Alice Walker

Lectionary Readings for October 15, 2017

Exodus 32:1-14

Isaiah 25:1-9

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

(continued from previous page)

Hurricane Harvey

In the United States, our full communion partner, the United Church of Christ, is initiating responses to the ongoing wind and flood disaster on the Gulf Coast. The [United Church of Christ is accepting donations](#) for these efforts.

Flooding in Southeast Asia



*Schoolchildren wade past a waterlogged railway street in the rain in Mumbai, India
Credit: Associated Press/Rajanish Kakade*

Floods in parts of southeast Asia are causing significant hardship and loss of life as well as property. The United Church of Canada has responded to emergency relief efforts in India through Mission & Service partner ACT Alliance. We have also contributed to an ecumenical emergency response in India through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. We continue to monitor the situation and discern how best we can offer support and prayer. And we ask people to pray for all those affected.