



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, April 29, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Fran Jackson
Pianist: Mary Anderson

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*“In the church, by God’s grace, everyone
– including marginalized folks –
is already included in the celebration.”
- Affirming Ministry Intro*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Centering Hymn: VU #412 This is the Day (*verse one*)
(*please remain seated*)

Call to Worship

ONE: We are summoned here by the Holy Spirit,

**ALL: who calls us each by name,
and gathers us together in the name of Jesus.**

ONE: From farm and hamlet, town and city,

ALL: we are called into God’s presence.

ONE: Young and old and middle-aged,
individuals and families,
soft-spoken and outspoken,

**ALL: we hear our names being called
to join in song and word and prayer.**

ONE: This house of worship
is a place to pursue God’s vision for all people:

**ALL: unity, joy and faith expressed through different gifts.
Come, let us worship together!**

Adapted from: *Celebrate God’s Presence*, page 23.

Worship Schedule

The Lord’s Prayer – Sermon Series

May 6	Sing a New Song (with potluck)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 13	St. Andrew’s College	- Youngjin Park
May 20	“Our Father in Heaven” (with communion)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 27	Conference Annual Meeting	- Worship & Music Ctte

Recent Events:

Saturday, April 27 - Earl Conn Funeral Service – officiated by Linda Stumpf

Extreme Hunger Appeal: one-year anniversary update



**Thank you for your
generous and
compassionate
support of The
United Church of
Canada’s Extreme
Hunger Appeal**

A year ago, the United Church launched an Extreme Hunger Appeal. At the time, the United Nations had declared a famine in South Sudan, calling it the largest humanitarian crisis since 1945.

We have received \$713,438 in donations since early April 2017, and are deeply thankful to all the generous individuals who supported this appeal and the important work carried out by Mission & Service global partners.
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Hymn: MV #1 Let Us Build a House
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer & Jesus' Prayer

**Holy Mystery, Ground of our Being,
may the door of this house
be wide enough
to receive all who need love and fellowship,
and narrow enough
to shut out all envy, pride and strife.**

**May its threshold
be smooth enough
to be no stumbling-block to straying feet,
but rugged and strong enough
to turn back that which would tempt us.**

**May the door of this house
be a gateway to your reign on earth.**

Adapted from: Celebrate God's Presence, page 28.

WORD

Hymn: MV #178 Who is My Mother *(verses 1, 2 & 3)*
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #178 Who is My Mother *(verse 4)*
(please remain seated)

Scripture:

Acts 8:26-40

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: Philip and the Eunuch

Choral Offering: Nothing More

- The Alternate Routes

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Moving Forward in Our Intercultural Work

Offering

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

Prayer of Dedication

**O God,
to those who have hunger,
give bread,
and to those who have bread,
give the hunger for justice.**

Amen.

Adapted from: Celebrate God's Presence, page 51.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: Belonging
- Christopher New (please stand as you are able)

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #50 Alleluia *(sung three times)*

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for May 6, 2018

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98 (VU p. 818)

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

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Your support helped our partners meet the needs of thousands of displaced people in South Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia who are facing extreme hunger as a result of devastating conflict and drought made worse by climate change.

Donations supported Mission & Service partners, including ACT Alliance, the National Council of Churches in Kenya (NCCCK) and the Organization of African Instituted Churches. United Church contributions to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) supported United Church-NCCCK projects in Kenya, as well as initiatives led by other CFGB members in Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia

As a member of the ACT Alliance, the United Church also helped NCCCK and its member churches in Kenya provide over 30,000 people with humanitarian relief, which included sanitation and hygiene initiatives. Donations also played a role in restoring livelihoods. Farmers were able to purchase new livestock and given certified drought-resistant seeds.

United Church of Canada donors helped another Mission & Service partner, the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC). This partner support displaced people and refugees affected by conflict and drought in Nigeria and Uganda.

[Read More](#)

For more information, please contact:

Wendy Gichuru Program Coordinator Africa & Middle East
Partnership Program

416-231-7680 ext. 4038

1-800-268-3781 ext. 4038

wgichuru@united-church.ca