



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, July 22, 2018

Forgive Us Our Debts

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Pianist: Joan Williamson
Organist: Patti McCleary

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*The weak can never forgive.
Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.
- Mahatma Gandhi*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Hymn: VU #382 Breathe on Me, Breath of God
(verses 1 &2) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship *(inspired by Psalm 48)*

ONE: How great is God, joy of all the earth!

ALL: **We notice with our own being
it is God who grounds us, makes us secure.**

ONE: The love of God spreads peace in our hearts
and throughout the world.

ALL: **Where there is justice,
there God is.**

ONE: Walk throughout the world –
make the rounds of all the marvels,
note the evidence of grace,

ALL: **God is everywhere, God is here,
let us give thanks!**

Adapted from: Suzanne Edgar, *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2018, page 34.

Worship Schedule

| | |
|---------|--|
| July 29 | “Lead Us Not into Temptation”- Rev. Annette Taylor - with communion |
| Aug 5 | 11 th after Pentecost - Emily Bamforth |
| Aug 12 | 12 th after Pentecost - Sandra Watson |
| Aug 19 | “Eternal Life” - Rev. Annette Taylor |

Lectionary Readings for July 29, 2018

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14 (VU pp.735)
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

Note: Worship Leader will also be using Matthew 4:1-11

General Council 43 July 22-27

There's a great array of activities happening at GC43 in Oshawa, Ontario. Many of these activities will determine the future of the United Church. **Most events in the plenary will be livestreamed** to our [YouTube channel](#). A button linking to the livestream will also appear on the [43rd General Council homepage](#).

[Opening worship](#) on Sunday July 22 starts at 9:45am EDT (7:45 in Saskatchewan). Elder Grafton Antone will lead the Indigenous [Edge of the Woods ceremony](#) that begins the opening worship.

At 4 pm (2 pm in Saskatchewan) on Sunday, Commissioners' business includes the proposal for [enacting the remits](#). The day concludes with a special event, [Living in Covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations](#), 7:30–9:00 pm in the plenary.

See the [full agenda online](#)

Hymn: VU #229 God of the Sparrow
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer

**Gracious God,
in the rest and renewal of summertime,
we gather with our community of faith.
We praise you for the sights and sounds of creation
that remind us of your wonder and joy.
May this time together fill us with delight
so that our spirits may dance the sacred story
and our lips whisper joyful possibilities.
All praise and glory is yours.**

Adapted from: Laura Turnbull, *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2018, page 38.

The Prayer of Jesus

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed by your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.
[For the kingdom and the power
and the glory are yours forever. Amen]**

From: Matthew 6:9b-13 (NRSV) with additional ending [in brackets]
that was included in some ancient authorities.

WORD

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

Celebration of Baptism

Zoe Mikael Layosa Orola
Parents: Michael & Jeline Orola
Godparents: Alvin Brisenio & Luningning Brisenio
Marvin Domingo & Mary Jane Gonzales
Jayson Rex Gonzales & Maybel Elevado

Blessing: MV #214 May God's Sheltering Wings
(please remain seated)

Scripture: Deuteronomy 15:1-18

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: As We Also Have Forgiven Our Debtors

Hymn: MV #95 How Deep the Peace *(sung twice)*
(please remain seated)

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Compassion in Life and Death

Offering

Offertory Hymn: VU #540 Grant Us God, the Grace
(please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Dedication

**We present these gifts,
and the gifts of our own living,
sharing and action,
so that all may be fed. Amen.**

Adapted from: Beth W Johnston, *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2018, page 45.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: VU #288 Great is Thy Faithfulness
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Closing: VU #964 Go Now in Peace *(sung twice)*

Grace for Lunch

Postlude

United Church Welcomes Accessible Canada Act

Bill C-81 represents significant progress in making Canada fully inclusive, but could be strengthened.

When the apostle Paul speaks about the church as the body of Christ, he reflects that “to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:7). The United Church is committed to becoming an open, welcoming, and accessible church, and to affirming people of all abilities.

The United Church welcomes Bill C-81, the proposed Accessible Canada Act, which had its first reading on June 20, 2018. The bill was developed after “extensive consultation with Canadians with disabilities,” and aims to “identify, remove and prevent” accessibility barriers in areas that fall under federal jurisdiction.

“Bill C-81 is the strongest federal disabilities-related legislation in Canada so far,” says Tracy Odell, a member of Knob Hill United Church in Scarborough, ON, who lives with a disability. Tracy is glad to see the bill’s emphasis on implementation and enforcement; however, she notes that the legislation could be improved with a timeline for implementation and a federal body to respond to accessibility complaints. Read more of Tracy’s personal take on the Accessible Canada Act in her blog post.

Members of Parliament are often back in their ridings during the summer months; consider contacting your member of Parliament and ask them to support this legislation. Ask your MP to call on Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities to continue to collaborate with Canadians with disabilities and their allies to improve Bill C-81.

[Read More](#)