



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
September 23, 2018

Mission & Service Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
with the Outreach Committee
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Organist: Patti McCleary

*No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted.
- Aesop*

The liturgy for today's service has been adapted from
Mandate, Summer 2018, pages 23-25.

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*Those who seek out virtue and kindness
will gain life, prosperity, and honor as well.
Proverbs 21:21*

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of Peace/Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Hymn: MV #14 Where Two or Three are Gathered
(sing three times) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship

One: God's Word isn't just for our ears or eyes.

ALL: God's Word is for our hearts and lives.

One: Not just for listening,

ALL: but also for hearing.

One: Not just for hearing,

ALL: but also for living.

One: As people of the Creator,

ALL: as Christ's disciples!

One: As dancers with the Holy Spirit,

ALL: here and everywhere!

One: Let us worship God!

ALL: Let us worship God!

Worship Schedule

Fruits of the Spirit Sermon Series

Sep 30	"Faithfulness"	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Oct 7	"Joy" Thanksgiving Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor - World-wide Communion
Oct 14	"Patience"	- Norma Hain - World Food Sunday
Oct 21	"Love"	- Rev. Annette Taylor - Potluck Lunch

Recent Events

Monday, Sept 17 – Leonard Martinoski Memorial Service

Tuesday, Sept 18 – Joyce Wharton Funeral Service,
officiated by Peggy Worrell

Lectionary Readings for September 30, 2018

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm 124 (VU p. 848)

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

Opening Hymn: MV #37 Each Blade of Grass
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**God, we gather as your people,
that all may be one.**

**Lifted by the wings of your Holy Spirit,
we listen for your Word
in burning bush and in all of creation.**

**Lifted by the wings of the Holy Spirit,
we listen for your Word
in the scriptures and in all of life.**

**Help us to swim together,
part of that great school of Jesus' fish,
held together by Christ's love.**

**Help us to live together,
part of that great web of life,
in every corner, every part of the circle,
given being by the Creator's love.**

All my relations. Alleluia! Amen.

WORD

Hymn: How Then Shall I Live *(verses 1, 2 & 3)*
- Linnea Good (please remain seated)

Community Learning Time

Hymn: How Then Shall I Live *(verse 4)*
- Linnea Good (please remain seated)

Scripture: Mark 12:28-34
Proverbs 21:21

ONE: We read these texts so that in them we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.

Reflection: Kindness

Choral Offering: Try a Little Kindness
- Glenn Campbell

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: Mission & Service 101

Offering

Offertory Hymn: VU #538 For the Gift of Creation
(please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God,
these gifts and all the others that we offer,
represent only a portion of your blessings to us.
We return them to you,
that they may be used for your work in the world.
Amen.**

Adapted from: Wanda Winfield, Gathering Pentecost 2 2018, page 39.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: MV #209 Go Make a Difference
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning and Benediction

Go into the world, living Christ's love everywhere you go.
Remember your neighbours: those who live here
and those around the world.

In the joyful times, share the celebration.

In the difficult times, share the hope.

In all times, remember this: we never go alone.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God!

Choral Closing: VU #298 When You Walk From Here
(sung twice)

Postlude

Moderator's Welcome Message



Moderator Richard Bott invites us to listen carefully to ourselves and to one another, and then to let our action be full of love.

[Watch Video](#)

Hello, my name is Richard Bott. My pronouns are “he,” “him,” and “his.” This past July, the General Council elected me as the 43rd Moderator of The United Church of Canada.

I’ve been asked what it is that I’m hoping to focus on over the next three years. I’d really like to see us—as individuals, as communities of faith, and as a denomination—to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in The United Church of Canada in the 21st century. Who is Jesus—for me, for you, and for us—and what does that mean for how we live and work and celebrate the presence of the divine together? Part of the joy of The United Church of Canada is that we have so many different answers to these questions—and, when we get down into the vulnerable depths of discussion, we have the ability to experience God’s presence in powerful ways, learning from one another.

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