



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
Sunday, January 22, 2023

### Epiphany Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor  
Music Director: James McLaughlan  
Pianist: Mary Anderson  
Organist: Patti McCleary  
Reader: Karen Messer



### GATHERING

#### Moment for Reflection

*“Many men go fishing all of their lives  
without knowing that it is not fish they are after,”*  
— Henry David Thoreau

#### Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

#### Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #71 *When the Wind of Winter Blows*  
(verse 1) (please remain seated)

#### Call to Worship

ONE: Many of us spend our lives rushing,  
**ALL: to get things done, to go to places we need to be,  
to achieve our destinies.**  
ONE: Some of us spend our lives hurrying,  
**ALL: from one place to another,  
forgetting to take time to enjoy what is around us.**  
ONE: On this Sabbath day,  
**ALL: let us slow our hurrying and calm our rushing,  
taking time to settle into worship,  
and taking time to settle into the Holy.**  
ONE: God is here with us now, with us always.  
**ALL: Let us celebrate the presence of God!**  
Adapted from: Heather McClure, *Gathering, A/C/E 2019-2020*, page 47.

### Worship Schedule

Jan 29	<i>Land Acknowledgements</i>	- Affirming Ministry Working Group
Feb 5	<i>This Light of Mine</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 12	<i>Fishers of People</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 19	<i>Written in Stone</i>	- Norma Hain

### Recent Events

January 16, 2023 – Lucille Sorensen Committal Service at Mount Pleasant Burial Park

### United in Learning: United against Hate Workshop



On **Wednesday, February 15, 2023**, at 8:00 p.m. EST, join Affirm United/ S' affirmer Ensemble and Affirming Connections to learn about the malicious misinformation campaign and threats that have been launched against the drag and Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ communities across Canada—and what you can do. Sign up for [United Against Hate](#).

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]

**Opening Hymn: VU #96 *Will You Come and See the Light***  
(please stand as you are able)

**Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

**Holy Mystery, Ground of our Being**

**as we gather this day**

**may we discover a faith**

**like Simon & Andrew,**

**the first-called disciples.**

**Just as they experienced**

**the fullness of your divine presence**

**as they encountered Jesus,**

**may we also be aware of your presence**

**with us here today.**

Adapted from: Taylor Croissant, *Gathering A/C/E 2022/23*, page 45.

**WORD**

**Hymn: VU #563 *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore***  
(verses 1 & 2) (please remain seated)

**Community Learning Time**

**Hymn: VU #563 *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore***  
(verses 3 & 4)

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:12-23**

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: *Fishers of People***

**Choral Offering: *Come Follow Me***

– Words by Sally K. Albrecht &  
Music by Jay Althouse

**RESPONSE**

**Minute for Mission: *Dignity is on the Menu***  
(selected by Kathie Murphy, Annual Giving)

**Offering Invitation**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**All that we are is yours, Loving God,  
all that we have been and all that we will be.**

**Bless our gifts of money, time and talent  
that they may be used to build**

**your reign of peace and justice on earth.**

Written by Annette Taylor.

**Celebration of Communion**

**Closing Hymn: VU #509 *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky***  
(please stand as you are able)

**Commissioning & Benediction**

**Choral Closing: MV #220 *Hope Shines as the Solitary Star***

**Grace for Potluck Lunch: VU #552 *For Food in a World***

**Postlude** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scripture Readings for February 5, 2023**

Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)

Psalm 112:1-9, (10) (VU p. 834)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20

**Prayers Cycles**

**Ministerial**

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

**Living Skies Regional Council**

Arcola-Kisbey

Balgonie-McLean

Battleford

## United Church Welcomes More than 100 Refugees



In 2022, with the help of the Refugee Advisory Group and hundreds of volunteers from many communities of faith across the country, the United Church submitted applications to sponsor 171 refugees from overseas. Of the 171, 12 are Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR), 6 are LGBTQ2+, 9 are stateless, and 53 are Afghani, with 30 through the Operation Afghan Safety (OAS) program. Refugees were sponsored by communities of faith across the country, including Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Toronto, and Ottawa. [Read the full story.](#)

[Image credit: Paul Jeffrey/ACT Alliance]