



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, April 30, 2023

St. Andrew's Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Shawn Sanford Beck
Music Director: James McLaughlan
Pianist: Mary Anderson



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

"Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart." — by Daniel Schutte

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: VU #412 *This Is the Day* (verses 1 & 3)
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: My friends in Christ, where can we go from God's Holy Spirit? Where can we flee from the divine presence?

ALL: If we go to the heavens, God is there. If we make our bed in the depths of the earth, the Holy One is there also.

ONE: With open and humble hearts, we gather together here and now, enfolded in the love of God. People of the Promise, come let us worship!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn: VU #389 *God is Here*
(please stand as you are able)

Worship Schedule

May 7	<i>Asian Heritage Month</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 14	<i>Mother's Day</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 21	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 28	<i>Camping Sunday</i>	- Outreach Committee

Recent Events:

April 24, 2023 – Irene Buck Funeral Service
at Warren's Chapel

Lenten Actions for Guaranteed Livable Income Stretch across Canada



On March 24–26, United Church guaranteed livable income supporters held actions and vigils across the country. Read the [full news story](#) for a cross-country update.

You can connect with the Guaranteed Livable Income Network by contacting justice@united-church.ca or visiting the [Guaranteed Livable Income webpage](#) for more information.

[Image credit: Trinity United Church, Grimsby]

Prayer of Approach

Eternal God, Creator of all, since before time began you have planned joy and justice and purpose for your people. As we gather this day, move among us in Spirit, open the ears of our hearts to hear your call. Gift us with knowledge of your will for our lives, that we may walk in your ways and spread your love through the world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord and our Love. Amen.

WORD

Hymn: MV #191 *What Can I Do?* (sung twice)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time – Rev. Shawn Sanford Beck

Hymn: MV #191 *What Can I Do?* (sung once)

Reflection: *The Spirit's Call*

Choral Offering: *Here I Am, Lord*
by Daniel Schutte

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *St. Andrew's College*

Offering Invitation

The scriptures and the Holy Spirit move us to offer our lives to God in caring and creative ways.

In thanks for God's grace, and for the healing of the world, we offer now our time, our talents, and our treasure. May God receive and bless the gifts that we give. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Our Prayers for God's World

Prayer refrain: God in your love, hear our prayer.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, we pray in the Spirit of Jesus, saying:

Creator in Heaven, our Mother, our Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: VU #625 *I Feel the Winds of God Today*
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

ONE: As we go forth into the world,

ALL: we go in the knowledge that God calls us and equips us, that Christ strengthens and guides us, and that the Spirit blesses us with the mantle of ministry for ourselves and for others.

ONE: And now may God bless you and keep you, God's face shine on you and be gracious unto you, God look upon you with favour, and grant you peace.

Choral Closing: VU #974 *Amen*

Postlude

Lectionary Readings for May 7, 2023

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Prayers Cycles

Ministerial

Christian Fellowship Church of Rhineland

Living Skies Regional Council

Four Town (Bredenburg, Langenburg, Saltcoats)