



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
Sunday, May 14, 2023

### Christian Family Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor  
Music Director: James McLauchlan  
Pianist: Mary Anderson  
Organist: Patti McCleary  
Reader: Sharon Veer



### GATHERING

#### Moment for Reflection

*"Children must never work for our love;  
they must rest in it."  
— Gordon Neufeld*

#### 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: Come mothers and those who mother!

**ALL: Come fathers and those who father!**

ONE: Come all who parent.

**ALL: Come all who have parents**

ONE: through birth, adoption, fostering

**ALL: or by being taken under the wing  
of someone with a parenting soul.**

ONE: Come those for whom today is hard,

**ALL: those who need to be enfolded  
in the care of this community.**

ONE: Today we celebrate the presence  
of a God who loves with a parental love,

**ALL: a love beyond anything we could ask  
or imagine or hope for!**

Adapted from: Chelsia Masterman, *Gathering* L/E 2023, p. 53.

### Worship Schedule

May 21	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 28	<i>Camping Sunday</i> (with recognition of graduates)	- Outreach Committee
June 4	<i>UCW Service of Closure</i> (with communion)	- United Church Women
June 11	<i>Worship in the Park</i> (with potluck lunch)	- Rev. Annette Taylor

### National Magazine Awards Nominates Broadview Magazine



[Broadview Magazine](#) and its contributors are up for [four nominations](#) at this year's National Magazine Awards. Nominations include:

- Best Special Interest Mag.
- Best Editorial Package
- Profile
- Illustration

The National Media Awards Foundation celebrates excellence in journalism and visual creation. This will be the third time in a row that *Broadview* has been nominated for Best Special Interest Magazine (they have won for the previous two years), and a special mention goes out to the nomination for Best Editorial Package for the Indigenous Vision issue, guest edited by General Council staff member the Rev. Murray Pruden. Congratulations!

[Image credit: Broadview Magazine]

## RESPONSE

**Opening Hymn: VU #373 *As Comes the Breath of Spring***  
(please stand as you are able)

### Opening Prayer

On this spring day, pregnant with possibility,  
we give thanks for life itself and  
for those who have parented us  
throughout our lives.

May we be thankful for the gift of family,  
in all its forms,  
and for the gift of this faith community  
in which we grow and pray and worship.

Written by: Annette Taylor, 2023

**The Lord's Prayer** (sung version – VU #959)

## WORD

**Hymn: VU #320 *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth***  
verses 1 & 2 (please remain seated)

**Community Learning Time** – Melanie Davis

**Hymn: VU #320 *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth***  
verse 3 (please remain seated)

### Scripture Reading: John 14:15-21

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: *Parent, Advocate, Helper***

**Choral Offering: *Spirit Boundless***  
- arr. Betty Ann Ramseth

**Minute for Mission: *Protecting Love around the World:***  
***Michael Blair's Work***

### Offering Invitation

### Prayer of Dedication

In words of compassion & reconciliation,  
Christ is alive!

In acts of peacemaking & peace bringing,  
Christ is alive!

In support for those living with fear and despair,  
Christ is alive!

In gifts for the local church and for a needy world  
Christ is alive!

May we be evidence of Christ's vitality. Amen.

Adapted from: David Sparks, *Gathering L/E* 2023, p. 50.

**Prayers of the People** (306-750-8925)

**Hymn: MV #142 *Oh a Song Must Rise***

### Commissioning & Benediction

**Choral Closing: VU #974 *Amen***

### Postlude

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### Lectionary Readings for May 21, 2023

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

### Prayers Cycles

#### Ministerial

Community Baptist Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Grasslands (Glentworth, Mankota, McCord)

## Honour or Thank a Special Person for Mother's Day



Mother's Day is May 14. At this time of year, we take a moment to reflect on the person or people who helped nurture us and guide us to be who we are today. You can amplify the love you have received by giving to Mission & Service, inspiring and transforming lives by building a better world. If you are looking for a way to honour or thank a special person for Mother's Day, please consider a [gift to Mission & Service](#).

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