



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, May 28, 2023

Camping Sunday

Leading Worship: Outreach Committee

Music Director: James McLaughlan

Pianist: Mary Anderson Organist: Patti McCleary



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"We now no longer camp as for a night, but have
settled down on earth and forgotten heaven."*

— Henry David Thoreau, Walden

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: VU #381 *Spirit of Life*
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: We are summoned here by our holy God,

**ALL: who calls us each by name,
and gathers us together
in the unity of Jesus Christ.**

ONE: From home and community,
from camps and classrooms,

ALL: we are called into God's presence.

ONE: Young and old and middle-aged,
individuals and families,
soft-spoken and outspoken,

**ALL: we hear our names being called
to join in worship.**

ONE: This house of worship is a place
to pursue God's vision for all people:

**ALL: unity and joy and faith
expressed through different gifts.
Let us worship together!**

Worship Schedule

- June 4 *UCW Service of Closure* - United Church Women
(with communion)
- June 11 *Worship in the Park* - Rev. Annette Taylor
(with potluck lunch)
- June 18 *Indigenous Day of Prayer* - Rev. Annette Taylor
- June 25 *Pride Sunday* - Affirming Ministry
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General Secretary Michael Blair 2023 Honorary Doctorate Recipient



In May,
General Secretary
Michael Blair received
an Honorary Doctor
of Divinity Degree
from Vancouver School
of Theology (VST).

The Honorary Doctor of Divinity is awarded to individuals who make significant contributions through integrating theology and the practice of ministry.

The Rev. Blair will join a prestigious group of HDD recipients, including Dr. Marie Wilson; the Rev. Dr. Chris Ferguson; the Rev. Dr. Lois Wilson C.C., OOnt.; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; and a total of 59 leaders since the award was established in 1981.

Find out more on the [VST website](#).

Congratulations! We are grateful for your leadership.

[Image credit: Courtesy of Moderator Carmen Lansdowne]

Opening Hymn: MV #41 *O Beautiful Gaia*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer
Creator God,
we hear your wilderness cry from the depth of our souls
and long to answer.
We seek you out in the silence and beauty of nature,
in the sound of the birds, the rustling trees,
the lapping water, and the crunching of branches.
Our eyes and ears are opened to your presence
in the newness of day,
the brisk air, and the colours of the sunrise.
Be with us in this time of storytelling and memories,
guiding us along the forest's edge into oneness with you.

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

WORD

Hymn: MV #37 *Each Blade of Grass* (verses 1 & 2)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time – Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #37 *Each Blade of Grass* (verse 3)
(please remain seated)

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:11-14
1 Corinthians 3:10-23

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: *Back to the Future of Camping*

Choral Offering: *I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy*

RESPONSE

Recognition of Graduates

Ella Toles, Sophia Ravino, Ruth Orola

Camp Shagabec Video

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

Give us, Holy Spirit,
the attitude of the church at Pentecost.

May we
respond joyfully, accept freely,
praise thankfully, give generously,
share widely, and work tirelessly.

And may our all that we offer
be used in the creation
of your kingdom on Earth. Amen.

Adapted from: David Sparks, *Gathering L/E* 2014, p. 26.

Prayers of the People

Hymn: VU #289 *It Only Takes a Spark*
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: *Go In Love*

Postlude

Prayers Cycles

Ministerial

Family Community Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Gull Lake: Knox, Regina: Heritage

Hudson Bay Larger Parish, Humboldt

Hurricane Hills (Carry the Kettle)



Contemplative Arts Festival in Saskatoon June 1-4, 2023

[The Contemplative Arts Festival](#) of Saskatoon (CAFS) is a community initiative of [Grosvenor Park United Church](#), an Affirming Ministry and a congregation that's served Saskatoon and the world for over 60 years. We are excited to announce 25 [Artists](#) and Speakers, 12 [Workshops](#), 3 [Discussion Panels](#), 4 [Special Events](#) and many [free Drop-in](#) activities.