



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, June 4, 2023

UCW Service of Closure

Leading Worship: UCW
Music Director: James McLauchlan
Pianist: Mary Anderson Organist: Patti McCleary



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

"When we acknowledge God's Supreme role in our life and set our mind on Him, He enables us to be women of hope."
- Elizabeth George.

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

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

Call to Worship

ONE: Greetings to our sisters and brothers in faith.

ALL: We come to celebrate God's presence,

ONE: and God's love
expressed through Jesus Christ.

**ALL: We come remembering
Jesus' life and ministry,**

ONE: and the ministry of those
who have gone before us
in this church.

**ALL: We come as a pilgrim people
searching for ways
to live out our faith.**

ONE: We come seeking the strength
to carry on our journey.

ALL: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

Adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence*, page 20.

Worship Schedule

June 11	<i>Worship in the Park</i> (with potluck lunch)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
June 18	<i>Indigenous Day of Prayer</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
June 25	<i>Pride Sunday</i>	- Affirming Ministry
July 2	<i>No service at First United Church</i>	

Lectionary Readings for June 11, 2023

Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm 33:1-12

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Prayers Cycles

Ministerial

Faith Evangelical Missionary Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Imperial, Indian Head: St. Andrew's

Kamsack: Westminster

New Blog:

We All Need a Little Pentecost



In the [latest Round the table blog](#), the Rev. Dave Jagger dares to use the "E" word and challenges us to make the season of Pentecost

a time of new discovery, positive energy, and bold discipleship.

[Photo by [Mohamed Nohassi](#) on [Unsplash](#)]

Opening Hymn: VU #402 *We Are One*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer

Praise and thanks to you, O God.
for all you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation,
for the wonder of life,
and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
and for the loving care
which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for the delight we find
in finishing well our daily tasks,
and for helping us find comfort in you.

Above all, we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ;
for the truth of his word
and the example of his life.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit this day,
that we may know Christ
and make him known through our living.

Amen.

Adapted from: *Voices United*, page 930.

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

WORD

Scripture Reading: Psalm 112 (VU page 834)

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: *Memories of First United Church Women*

Prayer of Love

Hymn: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*
VU #575 (please stand as you are able)

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *UCW Special Project – Bursary to*
Support Indigenous Women, Children and Families

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 all that we offer
be used in the creation
of your kindom on Earth. Amen.

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

Communion Hymn: VU #457 *As We Gather at Your Table*

Celebration of Communion

Closing Hymn: *One More Step Along the World I Go*
VU #639 (please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction (A UCW Prayer)

And now, go with us, Lord,
into the days ahead.

Strengthen us for peace.

Give us wisdom, keep us humble.

And may we live and work together,
and so striving,
build a new and better world
for tomorrow. Amen.

Choral Closing: *Go In Love*

Postlude

Growth Animators to Support and Strengthen Communities of Faith



“Growth is the most urgent priority God has given The United Church of Canada in this season”

—Rev. Mitchell Anderson,
Member of General Council
Executive, May 13, 2023

The Growth initiative represents the leading priority of the Strategic Plan of The United Church of Canada. As a way to embody this priority, the General Council Office’s Organizational Development and Strategy Unit is working with regional councils to create and fill six new positions. The six Growth Animators will be deployed across the regions to work in local and regional partnerships with a focus on renewing existing communities of faith, creating new communities, and strengthening invitation. Growth Animators will support and connect with communities where growth is occurring, and seek to bring best practices and fresh possibilities where growth is a challenge and feels impossible.

Working with the Growth Team will be the newly hired Director of Growth and Ministry Development, the Rev. Cameron Fraser, who is concluding ministry leadership at Knox-Metropolitan in Regina. Join us in praying for those who will discern a call to engage in this vital work.

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]
