



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, August 27, 2023

Bold Discipleship

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Reader: Sharyn Erne



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

UCC Call/Mission: *Deep Spirituality
Bold Discipleship
Daring Justice*

UCC Vision:
*Called by God, as disciples of Jesus,
The United Church of Canada seeks to be
a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse,
courageous, hope-filled communities
united in deep spirituality,
inspiring worship, and daring justice.*

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-our-vision>



Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: *Holy Spirit, Live in Me*

— Written & Sung by Jim Strathdee

Call to Worship

ONE: Come as those Jesus invites
to a life of bold discipleship.

ALL: **We hear Christ's invitation,
but we're not sure we're up to the task.**

ONE: Come as those equipped
by God's grace.

ALL: **We come,
with both gratitude and fear.**

ONE: Come as those empowered
by the Spirit's guiding.

ALL: **We come,
united in the Spirit's passion.**

ONE: Come and worship as followers of Jesus.

Adapted from: Gord Dunbar, *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2019, page 34.

Opening Hymn: MV #30 *It's a Song of Praise to the Maker*

— Words: Ruth Duck, Music: Ron Klusmeier

Sung by The "Sunday at Three" Singers

Opening Prayer

ONE: God, we've come thirsty—thirsty for your Spirit.

ALL: Living water, bubble up from inside us and lead us toward deep spirituality.

ONE: God, we've come hungry—hungry for community.

ALL: Bread of life, feed our spirits, and lead us toward bold discipleship in community.

ONE: God, we've come searching—searching for wholeness.

ALL: Source of Life, guide us, and lead us toward daring justice.

ONE: God, feed, nourish, and prepare us to be your church in the world.

Written by: Alydia Smith and Teresa Burnett-Cole

<https://united-church.ca/prayers/call-and-vision-opening-prayer>

The Lord's Prayer

WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:13-26

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: *Bold Discipleship*

Hymn: *How Then Shall I Live*

– Composed and sung by Linnea Good. Drums: David Jonsson

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *Making a Home for Refugees: ChrisAnn Alvarez's Work*

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Mystery,

accept these gifts as thanksgiving

for your many blessings.

Accept these gifts as our commitment

to your kindom.

Accept these gifts

and accept our lives.

Amen.

Adapted from: Frances Flook, *Gathering Pentecost 1*, page 39.

Prayers of the People (306-750-8925)

Hymn: MV #183 *I'm Gonna Shout, Shout*

– Words & Music by Bruce Harding

Sung by Bruce & Cheryl Harding

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: *Take This Heart of Mine*

– Music & Lyrics by Jim Strathdee,
Sung by Jean & Jim Strathdee & friends

Postlude

Prayers Cycles

Ministerial

Zion Mennonite Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Saskatoon: Mount Royal-Emmanuel

North Battleford: Third Avenue

Pine Cree (East End, Shaunavon)

Grand Coulee

Worship Schedule

Sep 3	Deep Spirituality	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Sep 10	Welcome Back Sunday	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Sep 17	16 th after Pentecost	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Sep 24	Mission & Service Sunday	- Outreach Committee

Upcoming Meetings & Activities

- Sunday, August 27 – Worship & Music, 1:00 p.m. on Zoom
- Monday, August 28 – Earthcare Partners, 4:00 p.m. on Zoom
- Wednesday, August 30 – Lectionary Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. on Zoom
- Thursday, August 31 – Coffee Time, 10:30 a.m. in Cypress Lounge
- Thursday, August 31 – Leadership Team, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Gibimishkaadimin 2023



[Gibimishkaadimin](#) is an Indigenous word representing “paddling together by boat.”

This pilot project of reconciliation engages Indigenous youth from across Canada and non-Indigenous youth from Shining Waters Regional Council in collaborative and experiential learning through an Indigenous lens.

This youth leadership opportunity fosters relationships with each other and the land through a summer canoe trip.

This year's canoe journey began on August 21 from Temagami, Ontario, after an opening ceremony with Murray Pruden, Executive Minister of Indigenous Justice and Reconciliation. Moderator Carmen Lansdowne has joined the group of youth this year. Watch for updates on our [social media pages](#)!

You can help keep this innovative reconciliation program going by donating through [Bloor Street United Church](#) (please add a note specifying the donation is for Gibimishkaadimin).

[Photo: The Gibimishkaadimin youth with Elder Murray Pruden as they start their journey. Credit: Beth Symes]

The Mod's Book Squad Is Starting Soon!



We are excited for [The Mod's Book Squad](#) to start next month! Sign up for all the fun in one of Canada's largest online book clubs on [CHURCHx](#).

When you purchase two or more books featured in [The Mod's Book Squad Collection](#) from the United Church Bookstore you'll receive 15% off your purchase with the discount code **MODSQUAD** (applied at checkout). This offer is also

compatible with the promotional code **FREESHIPPING** to access free shipping on orders of \$100 or more!

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[Image credit: Canva]