



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK

Sunday, April 7, 2024

2nd Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship: Karen Messer
Music Director: James McLaughlan

Pianist: Mary Anderson

Reader: Jim Pratt



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

The Simple Path

Silence is Prayer

Prayer is Faith

Faith is Love

Love is Service

The Fruit of Service is Peace

- Mother Teresa

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #115 *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New*
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship (based on John 1:21)

ONE: Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you."

ALL: **Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."**

ONE: Come let us worship God.

Opening Hymn: VU #382 *Breathe on Me Breath of God*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

We no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for his spirit is alive and among us.

We celebrate his presence. As we learn to live with Jesus as our guide, we gain an inner peace and learn to live in harmony with those around us. How very good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!

Hymn: VU #396 *Jesus Stand Among Us* (verses 1 & 2)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Karen Messer

Hymn: VU #396 *Jesus Stand Among Us* (verse 3)

WORD

Scripture Reading: John 20: 19-31 (The Inclusive Bible)

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: *Does Doubting show lack of Faith?*

Choral Offering: *Our Highest Values*

- Words and Music by Christopher New

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *Healing through Storytelling*

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Mystery,

you transform lives:

the hungry are fed;

the lonely are befriended; and

the broken are restored to wholeness.

May these gifts

be part of the transformation.

We offer them with humility and hope. Amen.

Adapted from: Laura J. Turnbull,

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/blessed-healer-you-transform-lives>

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: MV #209 *Go Make a Differ'ence*

(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: VU #974 *Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!*

Postlude

Recent Events

Saturday, April 6 – Alison Nagy and Levi Côté Wedding Service at First United Church

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Family Community Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Saskatoon: Grosvenor Park

Gull Lake: Knox

Regina: Heritage

Hudson Bay Larger Parish

Hurricane Hills

Lectionary Readings for April 14, 2024

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4 (VU p. 727)

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Worship Schedule

Apr 14	<i>Becoming Christ's Body</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Apr 21	<i>Earth Day</i>	- Earthcare Partners
Apr 28	<i>Camping Sunday</i>	- Outreach Committee
May 5	<i>Red Dress Sunday</i>	- Affirming Ministry Group

Moderator Visits Global Partners and Projects in Zambia and Kenya



Moderator Carmen Lansdowne and Church in Mission Executive Minister the Rev. Dr. Japhet Ndhlovu are on a two-week visit to global partners and projects in Zambia and Kenya.

The visit in Zambia included a partner round table with the Council of Churches in Zambia and visits with People's Action Forum, Women for Change, and the United Church of Zambia University (UCZU).

As with Canadian congregations, the Moderator encouraged global partners with a message of flourishing, urging them to celebrate being alive even when they feel challenged. Read the [full news story](#).

[Photo credit: Japhet Ndhlovu]

Together for the Love of Creation: Earth Week 2024



For Earth Week, April 21-28, [Moderator Carmen Lansdowne](#) reminds us that change takes all of us. Each action brings hope. Let's make hope visible across the country. During Earth Week, let's show up [For the Love of Creation!](#) Let's pray, learn, and act for Creation.

Read the [full news story](#), and [host and participate in climate justice events](#).

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]