



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, January 26, 2025

3rd after Epiphany

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Music Director: James McLauchlan
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Reader: Charles Lotochinski



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*We at First United Church, guided by the Spirit,
are striving to be an Open and Diverse Community of Faith.
Through words and action we pursue the values of
Spiritual Growth,
Compassionate Outreach,
Social Justice and
Care of the Earth.*

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: VU #96 *Will You Come and See the Light*
(verses 1 & 5) (please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: Jesus was anointed
ALL: to bring Good News to the poor.
ONE: Jesus was sent
**ALL: to proclaim liberty to the captives,
to transform and heal.**
ONE: As disciples of Jesus
**ALL: we are called
to follow in Jesus' way.**
ONE: Come let us fill ourselves
with the Spirit.
**ALL: Let us prepare ourselves
for God's work in the world.**

Written by: Annette Taylor, Swift Current, SK.

Opening Hymn: VU #79 *Arise, Your Light Is Come*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer - led by Elynn Bilanski

**Holy Mystery,
Ground of our Being,
we come to you with hungry hearts,
waiting to be filled:**

**with a sense of your presence;
with the power of your spirit;
with new energy for service.**

**May we be empowered:
to celebrate your amazing grace and
to work for peace and justice
for Jesus' sake.**

Adapted from: *Celebrate God's Presence*, page 28.

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/gracious-god-we-name-opening-prayer>

The Lord's Prayer

WORD

Hymn: VU #699 *Live into Hope* (verses 1 - 2)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: VU #699 *Live into Hope* (verses 3 & 4)
(please remain seated)

Scripture Reading: Luke 4:14-21 (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: *Jesus' Inaugural Address*

Choral Offering: *For Everyone Born, A Place at the Table*

– Words by Shirley Erena Murray; Music by Ron Klusmeier

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *Earthcare Partners*

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

**Take the gifts we offer,
not as a means to rescue others,
but as a means for relationship and for connection,
as a means to build bridges between strangers,
as a means to embody the good news. Amen**

Adapted from: Gord Dunbar, *Gathering*, Pentecost 2 2015, page 40.

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn: MV #120 *My Soul Cries Out*

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: *Go In Love*

– Words by Nancy Price and Don Besig, Music by Don Besig

Postlude

Worship Schedule

Feb 2	<i>Black History Month</i> (with communion)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 9	<i>Responding to Jesus' Call</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 16	<i>The Beatitudes</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 23	<i>Forgiveness</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Family Community Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Five Oaks (SM) (Naicam, Spalding)

Fort Qu'Appelle: St. Andrew's

Gainsborough

Saskatoon: Grace Westminster

Lectionary Readings for February 2, 2025

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6 (VU p.789 Part One)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

Praying for a Permanent and Lasting Ceasefire



The United Church of Canada joins in the prayers and hopes of partners in Palestine and Israel and around the world at news of the emerging ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas. We reiterate our call for the immediate and safe release of all captives

so that they can return to their families and communities. This ceasefire must be sustained and permanent. Communities who are displaced and have endured more than 400 days of bombardment, constant fear, famine, and the denial of shelter, healthcare, and water must have freedom to return to their homes. Humanitarian aid must be safely delivered to all parts of Gaza.

We pray for the efforts of all those who have worked tirelessly to bring about an end to the violence so that the people of Gaza might reclaim their rights to life with dignity. Read the latest [news story](#), and please continue to [advocate, pray, and donate](#).

[Image credit: Crisis Action]

Moderator Carmen Lansdowne's Centennial Message: Commemorating 100 Years of Faith and Community



June 10, 2025, will mark the United Church's 100th anniversary—an opportunity to honour our past and look to the future! In her [Centennial message](#), Moderator Carmen Lansdowne invites you to explore the vision of our founders and commemorate this milestone with your community. Learn more about all things Centennial by visiting the [Centennial](#)

[webpage](#), and stay connected by subscribing to the [Centennial newsletter](#).

Let's come together to celebrate our shared heritage and build a stronger future for our church and our communities.

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]