



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, March 30, 2025



Lent Four

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Music Director: James McLauchlan
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Organist: Patti McCleary
Reader: Jaclyn Reaves Jacobson

GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"We are your image, formed in community;
sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us colour, custom and history;
teach us to honour what others receive."
— Daniel Charles Damon (MV 44)*

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #14 *Where Two or Three Are Gathered* (sung 4 times)
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: Come to this space
with open minds and open hearts.
**ALL: We leave our preconceptions and
our prejudices behind and
open ourselves to God's spirit.**
ONE: This is a space where we
look deep within ourselves.
**ALL: prepared to let the Spirit shape us
into the people God calls us to be.**
ONE: Come and prepare to be changed.
**ALL: With the power of Love,
we are transformed.**
ONE: Let us worship God
together in this space.

Adapted from: Éric Hébert-Daly, Responsable des ministères en français, L'Église Unie du Canada
<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/come-place-open-minds-and-open-hearts>

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

Opening Prayer - led by Brynn Ruetz

**Holy Mystery,
Ground of our Being,
you teach us
to love unconditionally.
So we seek
to live with compassion
and forgiveness.
We strive
to include all people
as your beloved.**

Adapted from Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C., 2023.

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/loving-god-you-teach-us-love-outrageously>

The Lord's Prayer

WORD

Hymn: MV #44 *Shadow and Substance* (verses 1 & 2)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #44 *Shadow and Substance* (verse 3)
(please remain seated)

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (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: *Wicked*

Choral Offering: *Belonging*
- words & music by Christopher New

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *Breaking Barriers: Women in Theology and Leadership*

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

**Holy Mystery,
may our gifts of money, time and talent
be a catalyst for truth about
how we are blessed and
how we are broken and**

**how we are given to your world
for hope and healing.**

Amen

Adapted from: Karen Boivin, 2022

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/loving-god-may-these-gifts-be-catalyst-truth>

Prayers of the People

Grace for Lunch: VU #552 *For Food in a World*

Closing Hymn: VU #691 *Though Ancient Walls*
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: MV #214 *May God's Sheltering Wings*

Postlude: VU #232 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You*

Worship Schedule

Lenten Movie Series/Holy Week

Apr 6	<i>I'm Still Here</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Apr 13	<i>Palm Sunday</i> (with communion)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Apr 18	<i>Good Friday</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Apr 20	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Trailview Alliance Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Kindersley: St. Paul's

Saskatoon: Knox

Regina: Knox Metropolitan

Lafleche (Lafleche, Limerick)

Lectionary Readings for April 6, 2025

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 126 (VU p. 850)

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

Don't Miss Out! Cross-Country Check-in with Members of the General Council Executive



You're invited to the next live Cross-Country Check-in on April 2 at 4:00 p.m. CST! Join General Secretary Rev. Michael Blair and General Council Executive guests for a discussion of key decisions and dialogues. This is your opportunity to ask questions and engage directly with leadership.

With over 330 participants last time, [register early on CHURCHx!](#)

Treena Duncan, Regional Executive Minister, Pacific Mountain Regional Council will facilitate.

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Mother Earth Day – Jubilee 2025 Prayer Service



Gather online and in person on Earth Day, April 22 at 1:00 p.m. MDT (3:00 p.m. ET) for a Mother Earth Day–Jubilee 2025 Prayer Service.

As part of [Together for the Love of Creation Earth Week](#), join Indigenous Minister Rev. Tony Snow and others for a time of

prayer on United Nations International Mother Earth Day. [Learn more.](#)

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]