



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor
Music Director: James McLauchlan
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Organist: Patti McCleary
Reader: Sharon Veer



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*"I slept and dreamt that life was joy.
I awoke and saw that life was service.
I acted and behold, service was joy."
— Rabindranath Tagore*

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

PALM PARADE

Gathering Hymn: MV #8 *And on This Path*
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: Everyone loves a parade!

ALL: Everyone loves a parade!

ONE: The crowds!

ALL: The celebration!

ONE: The excitement!

ALL: The donkey!

ONE: The donkey?

ALL: The donkey!

The one that carried Jesus into the city.

**The one that reminds us
what kind of king Jesus was.**

ONE: The donkey!

Today, we are the ones
who carry Jesus to the world.

ALL: Hosanna!

Let's have a parade!

Adapted from: Richard Bott, Grace U.C., Burlington, ON

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/everyone-loves-parade>

Opening Hymn: VU #123 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer - led by Sazia Tala Noora

**Holy Mystery,
we line up with the crowd
to celebrate the coming
of your chosen one.**

**May the enthusiasm
we feel in this moment
continue into
the shadow and betrayal
of Holy Week.**

**May we know your presence
and be strengthened
for the journey.**

Adapted from: Laura J. Turnbull, Gathering L/E 2022, page 37.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture: Luke 19:28b-40 (The Inclusive Bible)

Hymn: MV #128 *When They Heard That Jesus Was Coming* (verses 1 & 2)
(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time - Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #128 *When They Heard That Jesus Was Coming* (verse 3 & 9)
(please remain seated)

LAST SUPPER

Scripture Reading: Luke 22:14-27 (The Inclusive Bible)

ONE: We read these texts so that in them we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.

Reflection: *As One Who Serves*

Minute for Mission: *Stories of The United Church of Canada*

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>

Hymn: MV #195 *Long Ago and Far Away*
(please stand as you are able)

Celebration of Communion

MOUNT OF OLIVES

Scripture: Luke 22:39-46 (The Inclusive Bible)

Choral Anthem: *Jesus I'll Stay Awake*
- words and music by Linnea Good

Commissioning & Benediction

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

Postlude

Worship Schedule

| | | |
|--------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Apr 18 | <i>Good Friday</i> | - Rev. Annette Taylor |
| Apr 20 | <i>Easter Sunday</i> | - Rev. Annette Taylor |
| Apr 27 | <i>Earth Sunday</i> | - Earthcare Partners |
| May 4 | <i>Red Dress Sunday</i> | - Affirming Ministry Group |

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Zion Mennonite Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Integrated Community Ministries (Saskatoon)

Landis; Leader (closing), Sceptre

Little Cutarm (Atwater)

Lectionary Readings for April 20, 2025

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 (VU p.837 Parts 1, 2, & 3)

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

Deep Roots, Bold Action, Daring Decisions: The 2023 and 2024 Sustainability Report



For Earth Month, explore the impactful work of The United Church of Canada in the just released [2023-2024 Sustainability Report: Deep Roots, Bold Action, Daring Decisions](#). This report showcases the inspiring initiatives of our communities as we strive for a more just and sustainable world. [Read the full news story and download the report](#) to learn about the deep roots of our commitment and the bold actions being taken.

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]

Come Together as Easter People for Creation with Global Partners



As part of [Together for the Love of Creation Earth Week](#), you're invited to an insightful webinar featuring the Rev. Phyllis Byrd ([OAIC](#)), Patricia Mari T. Mungcal ([NCCP](#)), and the Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington (The United Church of Canada) on **Wednesday, April 23 at 5:00 p.m. CST**. These ecumenical leaders will share their experiences and perspectives on climate realities in their communities (Kenya, the

Philippines, and Canada), the root causes of the climate crisis and the transformative action of love that faith inspires.

[Register](#), and learn more about this timely discussion! This is one of many events happening during Earth Week. View the growing [map of events](#) and add your own.

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]