



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Sunday, May 25, 2025

Worship in the Park

Leading Worship: The Sunday School
Music Director: James McLauchlan



GATHERING

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle/Camp Fire

Opening Song: *Fire's Burning* (Round – Tune: Traditional; Words – Girl Guides of Canada, 1971)

*Fire's burning, fire's burning
Draw nearer, draw nearer
In the gloaming, in the gloaming
Come sing and be merry*

Call to Worship (*in a repeat-after-me song style*)

ONE: Going on a journey

ALL: Going on a journey

ONE: Walking with our God

ALL: Walking with our God

ONE: Might see some bears

ALL: Might see some bears

ONE: Or we might see some stars

ALL: Might see some stars.

ONE: We come from the North and South and East and West

ALL: North and South and East and West

ONE: Prairie, parkland, valleys, trees and hills

ALL: Prairie, parkland, valleys, trees and hills

ONE: Sacred land, good friends, and a place to rest & chill.

ALL: Sacred land, good friends, and a place to rest & chill.

ONE: Creator joins us here and we are BLESSED!

ALL: Creator joins us here and we are BLESSED!

Prayer of Approach

O God our Creator

We say 'thank you' for the beauty that surrounds us.

We say 'thank you' for the friends we have met on our journeys.

And we say 'thank you' for the celebration of camping ministries today.

**So many who came before us knew the gifts of camp – more space, more quiet,
more camp-fires and smokey food, more friends and songs and laughter.**

**Be with us as we celebrate your love through Jesus of Nazareth,
through nature and experiences of time set apart that only camp can offer –**

help us to remember our own times, listen to the stories of others and encourage all ages to give it a try!

Amen.

WORD

Hymn: VU #289 *It Only Takes a Spark (Pass It On)*

*It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing:
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone,
you want to pass it on.*

*What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees
are budding,
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
you want to pass it on.*

*I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found -
on God you can depend, it matters not where
you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top;
I want my world to know:
the Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.*

Life and Work of the Church

Celebrations and Concerns

Passing the Peace

Hymn: *This Little Light of Mine* (Source: African American, public domain)

*This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

*Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Don't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 104:1-6, 31-34

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.

Stories

Hymn: *Give Me Oil in My Lamp* (Source: Traditional, Public Domain)

*Give me Oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Keep me burning till the break of day.*

Refrain:

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!*

*Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Give me love in heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Keep me sharing till the break of day. (Refrain)*

*Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing.
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing.
Keep me singing till the break of day. (Refrain)*

*Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Give me faith in my heart, I pray.
Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Keep me praying till the break of day. (Refrain)*

Prayers of our Hearts

Prayer of Jesus – paraphrase by Jim Cotter VU p. 916

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

**The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Remembering Our Gifts

ONE: We take time in our service to be aware of the gifts we have received from our Creator.
We take time to be intentional about the Gratitude and Generosity we are called into.
God asks us to respond and so we do!
(offering)

ALL: Creator God, accept these financial gifts and the time and talents we offer to you today.
Help us to support our local ministries and the work of our camps.
May these gifts help bring about your Reign, your community over all the earth.
Amen.

Hymn: *If You're Happy and You Know It*

**If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands
If you're happy and you know it
Then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands**

**If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet
If you're happy and you know it
Then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet**

**If you're happy and you know it, shout hurray (hurray)
If you're happy and you know it, shout hurray (hurray)
If you're happy and you know it
Then face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, shout hurray (hurray)**

**If you're happy and you know it, do all three (hurray)
If you're happy and you know it, do all three (hurray)
If you're happy and you know it
Then your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, do all three (hurray)**

Commissioning & Benediction

Let us go and be the people God has called us to be.

Let us recognize the real gifts we have been given through all our camps, and all of creation!

Let us share our love with the world and practice the inclusive justice that Jesus has shown us.

Amen.

Sung Blessing: VU #577 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain,

I've got joy like a fountain,

I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain,

I've got joy like a fountain,

I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.

I've got love like an ocean,

I've got love like an ocean,

I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.

I've got love like an ocean,

I've got love like an ocean,

I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.

Written by Rev. Shelly Manley-Tannis, Saskatoon, SK

Worship Schedule

June 1	<i>Affirming Ministry Sunday</i>	- Affirming Ministry Group
June 8	100 th Anniversary of The UCC (with communion)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
June 15	<i>Spirit of Truth</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
June 22	3:30 p.m. <i>Annette's De-covenanting Service</i> followed by potluck Retirement Supper (note: morning service has been cancelled)	- Rev. Pam Thomas

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Church of the Open Bible

Living Skies Regional Council

Moosomin: Bethel (Moosomin)

Saskatoon: Mount Royal-Emmanual

Norquay

North Battleford: Third Ave.

Lectionary Readings for June 1, 2025

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97 (VU p. 817)

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

Be Part of History: Centennial Worship Service Livestream Event



Have you got a case of FOMO about the national Centennial worship service? Fear of missing out? Don't!

At First United Church we are organizing a watch party of this special national Centennial worship service.

On **Sunday, June 8, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. CST**, the in-person service will be held at Gower Street United Church, 99 Queens Rd, St. John's, NL.

We will be tuning into the livestream, and gathering those who want to be part of this moment in our history. Come to the church and be a part of the celebration!

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]