



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
Sunday, August 9, 2026

### Eleventh After Pentecost

Leading Worship: Linda Stumpf  
Music Director: James McLauchlan  
Reader: Eileen Elkington



## GATHERING

### Greeting and Welcome

### Announcements

### Land Acknowledgement

### Lighting the Christ Candle

**Gathering Hymn: MV #21 *Open Our Hearts***  
(please remain seated)

### Call to Worship

ONE: We come from the heat of the summer sun and the beauty of the natural world.  
We are called to be the church, to walk together in Christ's way.

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: From our earliest beginnings, from our time in the wilderness,

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: In our grandmothers' courage, in our grandfathers' vision,

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: Across seven generations, despite danger, despite struggle,

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: In a world in need of love, in a time of change and fear,

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: In a future yet uncertain, on this path of peace and justice,

**ALL: God is our hope.**

ONE: So we gather to worship with hope in our hearts.

Adapted from: Alison Etter, Baddeck PC, Baddeck NS Gathering Pentecost p. 28 1 2014(Year A)

**Opening Hymn: MV #12 *Come Touch Our Hearts***  
(please stand as you are able)

### Opening Prayer

**Holy Mystery,**

**we come into your presence this day with thanksgiving.**

**We are blessed to live in your world.**

**We are never far from your presence although sometimes it feels like we are.**

**We erect barriers and build walls and begin to feel very lost.**

**Yet you come searching for us to help us find our way back.**

**For this we give thanks.**

**Be with us in this time of worship,**

**and give us the direction we need to face the future with hope and energy.**

**Amen.**

Adapted from: Dianne Astle, Chemainus UC and Cedar UC Vancouver Island BC, Gathering p. 40, S/A 2008 (Year A)

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **WORD**

**Hymn: VU # 296 *This is God's Wondrous World***  
(please remain seated)

**Scripture Reading: The Story of Joseph from The Lectionary Story Bible Year A by Ralph Milton (Based on Genesis 37, 42-45)**

ONE: May these words be a light unto our path.

**ALL: May we hear them in a new way today.**

## **Reflection**

**Hymn: MV #150 *Spirit God Be Our Breath***

**Minute for Mission: *A Girls' School that Grows***

## **Offering Invitation**

## **Prayer of Dedication**

ONE: We have each been blessed with gifts to be used co-operatively for the strengthening of the Body of Christ, and the fulfillment of God's purpose.

**ALL: May we rejoice in our gifts and offer them with humility and willingness.**

**May we encourage the gifts we see in others and may we abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

By: Jaunita Austin, Sicamous UC, Sicamous BC Gathering p.35 Pentecost 1 2014 (Year A)

## **Prayers of the People**

**Closing Hymn: VU #556 *Would You Bless Our Homes and Families***  
(please stand as you are able)

## **Commissioning & Benediction**

**Choral Closing: VU #236 *Now Thank We All Our God***

## **Postlude**

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## **Worship Schedule**

|        |                                   |                     |
|--------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Aug 16 | <i>Twelfth after Pentecost</i>    | - Ray Friesen       |
| Aug 23 | <i>Thirteenth after Pentecost</i> | - Ray Friesen       |
| Aug 30 | <i>Fourteenth after Pentecost</i> | - Norma Hain        |
| Sept 6 | <i>Fifteenth after Pentecost</i>  | - Rev. Kelly Osgood |

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## **Prayer Cycles**

### Ministerial

Church of the Open Bible

### Living Skies Regional Council

Turtle River Parish (SM) (*Glaslyn, Meota, Mervin, Turtleford*)

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## **River Run 2026: Walk with Grassy Narrows for Mercury Justice**



[Image credit: Grassy Narrows River Run]

For decades, Grassy Narrows First Nation has faced devastating harm from mercury poisoning, with lasting impacts on the community's health, culture, and livelihoods.

On September 23, United Church communities of faith across the country are invited to stand in solidarity with Grassy Narrows by amplifying the community's message or joining the United Church contingent at the River Run. The Toronto rally begins at noon at Grange Park.

[Learn more](#) and join the call for mercury justice.

[Read the full news story](#)