

Strathearn United Church

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WIFI: *Strathearn UC Guest* (password: faithnet)

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE



Our Living Statement... Strathearn United Church is a loving Christian community living by faith and action, communicating through worship, education, fellowship and outreach, greeting the future with hope.

Minister	Rev. Sandy Ferguson
Minister Emeritus	Rev. Dr. Don Mayne
Music Director	Kathryn Wood
Musician	Shannon Hiebert
Office Administrator	Rena Spiess
Custodian	Rup, Coverall Services

PRAYER CYCLE OF THE WEEK

Our Family: Anne & Clayton Bounds, Laurie Brennan, David & Betty Carey, Allison & Brett Carnio & Family

Within Strathearn: Official Board

Northern Spirit: Namao (Morinville) Pastoral Charge (Namao United; Bon Accord United; Morinville United); Kirk Community Centre, Edmonton

World Council of Churches: Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Vatican City

Strathearn United Church welcomes you
to our Morning Worship.
8th of February 2026, 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

MUSICAL PRELUDE

A TIME TO GATHER

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 2:1-5
When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

OPENING HYMN: "There's a Spirit in the Air" VU582

- 1 There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
"Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world."
- 2 Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world
what God has done: God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
- 3 When believers break the bread, when a hungry child
is fed, praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world.

- 4 Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right: God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
- 5 When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home, praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world
- 6 May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways. God in Christ has come to stay,
live tomorrow's life today.
- 7 There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

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PRAYER OF APPROACH: *from the Waldensian liturgy*

One: Blessed are You, O God, for Your word of strength, of encouragement, of hope. That contagious word which allows us to believe and to move towards the renewal of our world. Grant us to hear Your word and to persevere in it, putting it into practice.
Amen.

A UNITED CHURCH CREED

**All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God who has created and is creating. Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new.
Who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church.
To celebrate God's presence. To live with**

respect in Creation. To love and serve others. To seek justice and resist evil. To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

I waited, I waited on the Lord VU954

I waited, I waited on the Lord,
I waited, I waited on the Lord;
who bent down low and remembered me
and who heard my prayer.

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*I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin.
Psalm 38:18*

All: God, we gather before You in prayer. As we open our hearts to You, We share with You our brokenness, And our faith in Your grace.

(Silence)

One: God have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

One: God have mercy. Let us pray together

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN: "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" VU421

1 Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come. In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home. Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow. We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

2 Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears, but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears. We are not lost, though wandering, for by your light we come, and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.

3 Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way, and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay. We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.

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WE SHARE IN GOD'S WORD

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. -The Gospel of John 1:1

RESPONSIVE READING: BOOK OF ISAIAH 58:9-12

One: Then you shall call, and God will answer

All: You shall cry for help, and God will say, "Here I am."

One: If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil

All: If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

One: God will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail.

All: Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt

One: You shall raise up the foundations of many generations

All: You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 5:13-20

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON: Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to You, O God, my rock and my redeemer.

THE WORD OF GOD ENACTED

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" VU541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

The Dedication of Gifts:

One: God, Creator of All, receive these gifts of time, treasure and talents from our hearts and our hands. May they be used to reveal Your Kingdom in the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

*Pray as though everything depended on God.
Work as though everything depended on you.
(Attributed to Saint Augustine of Hippo)*

One: God, we gather before You to give thanks. We give thanks for all who are Your light in the world. Who do what they can to bring compassion, hope and justice into the lives of others. Who are willing to reach out and ask, 'what can we do for you?' In silence, God, we bring to You the names of those who have been Your light to us. (Silence) God, we bring our prayers to You. Our prayers for a better world. Our prayers that we will have the strength, courage and compassion to embrace and enact Your vision of how this can be a better world. We pray for those who struggle in these times of economic, political and social turmoil. For those oppressed and yearn for justice. And God, we pray for Your church that we may be a light to those who struggle. And God we come to You with the prayers of our hearts. For those who we know who struggle with illness of the mind, body and spirit. For those who are alone. For those who yearn for connection. These names we bring to you. (Silence) Amen.

HYMN: "Go, Make a Difference" MV209

R Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world. *(Repeat x2)*

1. We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people see the love of God for you and me.

We are the light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen. Go make a difference in the world.

R Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world. *(Repeat x2)*

2. We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need, the face of God for all to see. We are the spirit of hope; we are the voice of peace.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**

3. So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world. And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**

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SENDING FORTH: *Adapted from Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

One: Mere waiting and looking on is not Christian behavior. The Christian is called to sympathy and action, not in the first place by their own sufferings, but by the sufferings of others, for whose sake Christ suffered." Amen.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee & Conversation Hosts: *(In the Junior Room)*

Feb 8: Property & Facilities / Finance

Feb 15: Ron Banks, Lill Park

Feb 22: Worship / CD (Baden Powell lunch)

We, the congregation of Strathearn United Church, are situated on Treaty 6, traditional lands of the First Nations and the Metis People.
