

Strathearn United Church

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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
Minister Emeritus
Music Director
Musician
Office Administrator
Custodian

Rev. Sandy Ferguson
Rev. Dr. Don Mayne
Kathryn Wood
Shannon Hiebert
Rena Spiess
Rup, Coverall Services

Strathearn United Church welcomes you to our
Morning Worship!

10th of May 2026, the Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME & GATHERING

"I've never heard of any community that failed because it lacked material resources. Communities fail because they lack imagination and spiritual contact and soul and a sense of others and staying power and courage to move together and to live together." -Daniel Berrigan

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING HYMN: "For the Beauty of the Earth" VU226

- 1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
R God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 2 For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the
night, hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light, **R**
- 3 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, **R**

4 For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,

R God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

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PRAYER OF APPROACH: World Council of Churches

One: O Creator and Mighty God, You have promised,
Strength for the weak; Rest for the labourers; Light
for the way; Grace for the trials; Help from above;
Unfailing sympathy; Undying love. O Creator and
Mighty God help us to continue in Your promise.
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

"Send Your Holy Spirit"

VU370

Send your Holy Spirit on your gathered people,
merciful and loving God, hear us, as we pray.

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*Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for
one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of
the righteous is powerful and effective. -James 5:16*

All: God, in this time of prayer You invite us to be
close to You; To trust You; To share with You
our brokenness in faith that You will touch us
with Your grace. Thank You for this moment.
(Silence)

One: God have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

One: God have mercy. Thank you.

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: "O Day of God, Draw Nigh"

VU688

- 1 O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power,
come with your timeless judgement now
to match our present hour.
- 2 Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid,
the quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed.

- 3 Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure, and finely build for days to come foundations that endure.
- 4 Bring to our world of strife your sovereign word of peace, that war may haunt the earth no more and desolation cease.
- 5 O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth; let there be light again, and set your judgements in the earth.

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WE SHARE IN GOD'S WORD

Paul's letter to the Romans 15:4

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

RESPONSIVE READING: 1ST PETER 3:13-16

One: Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

All: But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed.

One: Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord.

All: Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you yet do it with gentleness and respect.

One: Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS 17:22-31

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

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, You bless us with gifts of time, talent and treasure and in doing so, You invite us to share these gifts as a witness to our faith in Your Kingdom. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.

The Gospel of Mark 1:35

One: God calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our praise, thanksgivings, and intercessions to God. God through our prayer we give You thanks. For the blessings You share with us. And the presence of Your love in the people who touch our lives. In this time of silence we bring to You the names of those who have been the witnesses to Your care for us. (Silence)

God as we celebrate the hope of new life through resurrection, we pray for Your presence among us as we struggle with the reality of our broken world. We pray for those who struggle. For those who suffer. Those who yearn for hope. In the midst of war, we yearn and pray for peace. We pray that the leaders of nations will work together to serve a world in need, and that they learn from the example of those who have served. 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.

CLOSING HYMN: "Sing Your Joy" VU253

- 1 Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory! Rise and sing, the morning has come! Bless our God and praise all creation; song of the earth, and light from heaven: God is alive! *Hallelujah!
- 2 All the earth is filled with rejoicing, light and life, the wonder of God! Christ has triumphed! Risen for ever! Joy of our hearts, and hope of our dreaming: God is alive! Hallelujah!
- 3 May we learn to become your kingdom, may we be your kindness and truth! Love is our calling, gift of your presence; children of God, and spirit of Jesus: God is alive! Hallelujah!

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SENDING FORTH:

One: The Kingdom of God is at hand! A kingdom that will challenge the expectations of our world when we embrace the hope of God that we will serve God by serving one another. Amen.

POSTLUDE

PRAYER CYCLE OF THE WEEK

Our Family: Don & Helen Mayne, Kris McCord, Lisa McCullough, Gladys McGregor

Within Strathearn: Official Board

Northern Spirit: Christian Family Sunday; Rural Life (Rogation) Sunday; Ascension Day (May 14); Camrose United Church • St. Paul's United, Edmonton

World Council of Churches: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

May 10: Jo-Anne Balla & Volunteers

May 17: Nancy Tysick & Volunteers

May 24: Property & Facilities / Finance

Bulletin Sponsor: Colleen MacGregor

In loving memory of Mom,
Ida Carey
December 15, 2021
Colleen, David, Ruth and Nancy

If you would like to be a bulletin sponsor to acknowledge an anniversary, in memoriam, birthday, or special thank you, please call or email Rena in the office. This is special fundraising for the church.