

WELCOME

If you are a visitor or newcomer, our first hope is that you will experience God's love and care. Our second hope is that you will also experience our love and care. Some of us are shy and quiet. Others of us are bold and outgoing. Yet, in all our ways we want to say: "YOU ARE WELCOME!"

Offering gifts to God's service is an integral part of our worship. Many people at St. Martin's have chosen to make their offering by post-dated cheque or PAR. Others prefer weekly offering envelopes. Visitors and guest should not feel obligated to share in our offering, but if you so desire you may find offering envelopes at the entrance to the sanctuary.

MUSIC

At St. Martin's we are richly blessed by many fine musicians. We encourage you to acknowledge their contributions to worship through silence, or when impelled by the Spirit, through applause.

OUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bob McPherson - Chair of the Board
Cathy Anderson - Secretary of the Board
James Cook - Treasurer
Kevin Hurlburt - Caretaker
Brandy Emmerich - Office Administrator
Brian Walton - Pastoral Care & Worship Leadership
Keith Hall - Youth, Young Adults, Newcomer Relations,
Volunteers & Pastoral Care
Darren Wooff - Children's Ministry & Outreach
Betty Lou Agnew - Organist
Cara Wilson - Handbell Choir
Keith Hall & Erin Tempel - Contemporary Singers
Aliah Nelson & Mars Zhao - Sanctuary Choir
Lori Cline Flath - Band Together
Donna Thiessen - Little Voices United



A congregation of The United Church of Canada

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Vision: To be a thriving, welcoming faith community that makes the example of Christ relevant to our living.

First Sunday after Epiphany

January 7, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

Community News

Lighting the Christ Candle

Invitation to Worship

The Spirit God is calling to us,

inviting a response to our Baptism commitments.

May we live lives that are true to our Baptism:

lives filled with enthusiasm for the Spirit,

actions filled with God's call to justice

and faith founded upon the example of the Christ.

Opening Prayer

O Source of Life, we seek to experience your love for us

so that our minds are on fire with your inspiration.

Enliven our faith so that we might experience your influence 24/7,

and allow it to shape our relationships with friend and stranger.

May we be beacons of compassion in moments of need,

may we be actions of justice in moments of unfairness,

may we be expressions of Love when hearts are breaking.

We desire to follow the path of Jesus and thereby find

meaning and purpose for the living of our days. Amen.

Lifting our Voices in Song

“On Jordan’s Bank” VU#20

Story Time with Brian

Children are Invited Downstairs

Prayer of Reconciliation

Sometimes, when we feel scared

**we confess that we do not always trust
the direction of your love.**

Sometimes, when we feel scared

**we hunker down behind the familiar,
assuming that difference and diversity
is a threat to our way of life.**

Sometimes, when we feel scared

**we pull back from strangers
and miss the opportunity to learn something new.**

Just as you commissioned us in our Baptism,

**call out to us again today to trust your way,
to open ourselves to new possibilities
and to risk living your Love fully in the world.**

Might it be so with us. Amen.

Listening for God’s Word:

Mark 1:4-11 ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a

voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Acts 19:1-7 While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

Sanctuary Choir

Response to the Reading

Offering Our Gifts

Offering Song “Three Things I Promise” (MV 176 vs. 2) (Sung twice)

Your love unfolded time and space
and life, and all that life became,
and so, with thankful heart and voice,
through good and ill, I bless your name.

Lifting our Voices in Song

“Spirit God, Be Our Breath” MV#150

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation

The Communion Prayer

There is before us, an invitation to come with all that is your flesh and blood, and to share it with your God.

**We accept this invitation, remembering God's gift to us in Christ
and its meaning for our lives today.**

This is how life is - broken, imperfect.

But you can live from this, and you can give it to your neighbour,
and your neighbour can experience
the nourishment you've received.

**We remember now the one called Emmanuel, God with us,
Who because he was broken for us, lives.**

We accept this precious gift.

Living is the spilling out of life. It is in freely and knowingly
pouring forth ourselves that others can live.

**We remember now the humanity of Christ,
Who poured forth his whole being so that we might live.**

**It is through this deep and abiding mystery
that we come now before you O God.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts,
that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the body of Christ:
justice, life and love in the world,
we pray. Amen.

Breaking and Sharing

As Elements are shared: "Bread for the Journey" VU #202

Prayer after Communion

**We give you thanks O God,
who is both Sower and Baker,
both Creator and Sustainer,
that you have refreshed
us at your table.**

**Strengthen our faith,
increase our love for one another,
and send us into the world
united in courage and peace,
rejoicing in your Holy Spirit.**

**Through the power of the living Christ,
we pray. Amen.**

Lifting our Voices in Song

"Travel On, Travel On" VU#647

Words of Blessing