

## 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**



*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.

## **Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

**January 28, 2018**

**9:30 a.m.**

### **Words of Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of the Land**

**Community News**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Passing of the Peace**

### **Invitation to Worship**

The church is no ordinary place:

here we listen for ancient wisdom;

here we imagine new possibilities;

here we pursue Love as the foundation for our lives.

**We have come in search of All That Makes Life Holy:**

**we are seeking a song in our soul,**

**we are seeking a prayer on our lips,**

**we are seeking a direction for our lives.**

**Might this be such a place: May we be such a people.**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Source of Life, open the doors of our hearts**

**to recognize your wisdom in many and diverse places.**

**In temple, mosque and synagogue people pursue you;**

**at river side and mountain-top people experience you.**

**Even as we cast our eyes back to learn from our tradition,**

**cause us also to cast our eyes forward to discern new prophets**

and to find your Spirit revealed in great and small.  
Reach out to us from the small hand of a child,  
from the rough hand of a labourer,  
from the manicured hand of the famous:  
helps us hold on to Love wherever it is found.  
Such is our prayer. Amen.

#### Theme Song:

Praise the Mother, praise the Father too.  
Praise the Lord of all, and the Source of you.  
Praise the river ever flowing through  
to the Ocean of who we are.(R)  
Hey mama he-ya mm bay, mm bay. (R&X)  
Praise the Mother, praise the Father too.  
Praise the Lord of all, and the Source of you.  
Praise the river ever flowing through  
to the Ocean of who we are. (Michael Stillwater)

#### Story Time with Darren

#### Children and Youth are Invited Downstairs

#### Prayer of Reconciliation

Might we bring our attention to,  
self-righteousness that will not compromise,  
disrespect for the wonders of creation,  
lust for money or power,  
words that slander or stereotype.  
Turns us back towards,  
actions that honour self and other,  
awe that beholds the natural world,  
the power of love, and common wealth.  
Teach us to sing praise, to speak love,  
and to demand justice,  
For the sake of the world, we pray. Amen.

#### Lifting our Voices in Song

“Praise God for this Holy Ground” MV#42

#### Listening for God’s Word:

##### Ruth 1 (selected verses)

<sup>6-7</sup> One day Naomi got herself together, she and her two daughters-in-law, to leave the country of Moab and set out for home; she had heard that GOD had been pleased to visit his people and give them food. And so she started out from the place she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law with her, on the road back to the land of Judah. <sup>8-9</sup> After a short while on the road, Naomi told her two daughters-in-law, “Go back. Go home and live with your mothers. And may GOD treat you as graciously as you treated your deceased husbands and me. May GOD give each of you a new home and a new husband!” She kissed them and they cried openly. <sup>10</sup> They said, “No, we’re going on with you to your people.” <sup>11-13</sup> But Naomi was firm: “Go back, dear daughters ...” <sup>14</sup> Again they cried openly. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye; but Ruth embraced her and held on.

##### Mark 9:38-41

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone<sup>[a]</sup> casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

#### Band Together

#### Response to the Reading

#### Lifting our Voices in Song

“Bring Many Names” VU#268

#### Minute for Mission

#### Offering Our Gifts

**Offering Song “Your Love Unfolded” (MV 176 vs. 2)**

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. (repeat)

**Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“Go, Make a Difference” MV#209

**Words of Blessing**