

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.

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

May 6, 2018

11:00

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

Community News

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Invitation to Worship

We enter this space, aware that we are invited into another time and culture.

We seek to learn from Jesus' life; lessons for our own living.

We are called to be 'translators' of ancient wisdom, and discerners of truth for our time.

Might we feel the adventure of this enterprise, and engage with body, mind and spirit.

Theme Song: "The Spring Has Come" VU #187

The Spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!

New light, new day, new colour after winter grey.

New light, new day, the spring has come,

Let all the church be part of it!

(repeat)

Opening Prayer

Ever Loving God, we gather together as followers of Jesus' Way.

We come as a celebrating people, singing your goodness.

We come as a praying people, speaking thanks and seeking help.

**We come as a curious people, anxious to hear your Word
and its meaning for our lives.**

Bless our gathering this morning, nurturing our community,
and preparing us for life in this amazing world. **Amen.**

Story Time with Brian

Children are Invited Downstairs

Lifting our Voices in Song

“Praise God for this Holy Ground” MV#42

Prayer of Reconciliation

**Author of Wisdom, help us not to abandon your Word
when it seems difficult or foolish.**

**Save us from this ‘instant culture’ and give us intention
to listen, study and reflect on wisdom for our lives.**

**Teach us to set aside culture-bound ideas
as we search for the eternal truths that shape and sustain life.**

**We know that faith is not easy,
but when we resonate with Holy Mystery,
our souls become calmer and our way becomes clearer.**

**Forgive us when we are slothful, sustain us with intention,
we pray. Amen.**

Listening for God’s Word: Acts 1: 1 - 11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you

have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Contemporary Singers “Nothing Left to Say”

Response to the Reading

Offering Our Gifts

Offering Song “Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One:

Give thanks because God’s given Jesus Christ the Son.

And now let the weak say “I am strong” let the poor say “I am rich”
because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now let the weak say “I am strong” let the poor say, “I am rich”
because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks.

Lifting our Voices in Song

“Let us Break Bread Together” VU#480

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: "Eat This Bread" VU#466

Prayer after Communion

**We give thanks that bread-broken brings wholeness;
that wine poured out replenishes;
that time spent in community with the Risen Christ
is gift and grace. Amen.**

Lifting our Voices in Song

"One More Step Along the World I Go" VU#639 (vs. 1, 4 & 5)

Words of Blessing