

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
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.

18TH Sunday after Pentecost - Sept 23, 2018 11:00 a.m.

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

In the spirit of reconciliation
let us acknowledge our relationship
with the Indigenous people of this land.

We acknowledge that we are gathering for worship on the traditional lands of the First Nations and the homeland of the Metis. We are all Treaty people bound by the understandings made in the agreement known as Treaty Six.

Community News

Lighting the Christ Candle

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Worship

Come to this sacred place to find God
in reverence and in awe.

We come ready to be inspired.

Come to this ordinary place to find God
in everyday life events.

We come ready to be surprised.

Come to this place to find God
in each other.

We come ready to worship.

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. (R4X)
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)

Opening Prayer

**Great Spirit, gracious, loving God.
Over the centuries, your people have
looked for you and found you;
in the beauty around them,
in the quiet confidence of your presence,
in the challenging words of scripture,
and in the gathering of souls who come together,
as we do, to praise you and give thanks.
Today may our worship awaken our hearts,
tune our spirits, and open our understandings. Amen**

Lifting our Voices in Song VU 379 “O Holy Spirit, Root of Life”

**Story Time: Blessing the Back Packs and Work Bags of those
returning to School or University with Darren**

Children and Youth are Invited Downstairs

Prayer of Reconciliation

You have given us a good earth, Creator God, and blessed us through the seasons and the years and we want to keep it. In every word and action of ours that speaks of preserving our planet, bless us.
Where we have contributed to the spoiling of the planet, forgive us.

You have given us wonderful bodies, Sustaining God, and blessed us as we have used them for your glory, and we thank you.

Where we have treated our bodies harshly, forgive us.

O God, grant us pardon, peace, and a new way.

Thanks be to God. Amen

Contemporary Choir

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

God of Creation, we are humbled by your faithful love for us all

You leave no one out of your loving embrace

We are grateful for the various gifts we have of friendships, mentors, teachers of every age; all those who care for us; and all those who care for those who have no one.

The needs are many; your love is bountiful in us to own and pass on to others.

Your creation astounds us in its beauty and colorful wildness.

We give thanks for all its aspects....

Water, oceans, lakes, and rivers, cascading waterfalls, quiet streams; all are gifts to be cared for and respected.

We respect the waters that give life.

Air that gives us breath and gives life to many species besides humans.

We respect the air that the whole world breathes.

Fire that consumes but refreshes life in its wake; it can cook food yet leave us homeless.

We respect the fire and its warmth and energy.

Earth that is our home, given by the Creator for the well-being of all life; its beauty overwhelms, its mountains and plains curve around our hearts to be well and keep it well.

We respect the earth, our home.

We sing thanksgiving for all your gifts to us as humans, charged with being caretakers of it all.

May we learn to respect all of it, including all the humans who walk with us on this great planet.

In awe, we are humbled and joyful for the love you share among us, and in us, and with which you surround us.

We are grateful, Creator, for your living in all the gifts that make us who we are and that connect us to you and to each other. Creator who made us, thank you. Amen! And Amen!

Lord's Prayer: VU 959

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
Now and forever.**

Lifting our Voices in Song VU 410 "This Day God Gives Me"

Listening for God's Word– James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Response to the Reading

Lifting our Voices in Song VU 892 "Who Comes from God"

Words of Blessing