

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
Dale Worrall - Treasurer
Kevin Hurlburt - Caretaker
Brandy Emmerich - Office Administrator
Jordan Cantwell - Worship Leadership, Admin, Pastoral Care
Keith Hall - Youth, Young Adults, Newcomer Relations,
Volunteers & Pastoral Care
Darren Wooff - Children's Ministry, Outreach, Christian Ed
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.

Epiphany Sunday January 6th, 2019 11:00 a.m.

Community News (10:55 am)

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Territory

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Time of silence to enter into worship

Lighting the Peace Candle

We Sing "Come and Fill Our Hearts" (repeat) MV #16

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, allelu-ia.**

Invitation to Worship

The Magi came bearing gifts.

We come bearing our gifts.

Jesus, God's gift to us, came into a chaotic time with a promise of change.

We come, hopeful that our gifts will bring change to at least one person.

Come and bring the most precious gift of all –
your life offered in God’s service.

We come to worship God.

Opening Prayer

**Radiant God, light for all people and all places,
by the guidance of a star you led the Magi to worship the Christ child.
By the light of faith lead us to worship you in peace and love,
and guide us in your way.
We pray in the name of Christ, light of the world. Amen.**

Lifting our Voices in Song “I Am the Light of the World” VU #87

Story Time

Prayer for Reconciliation

**God, sometimes we think our lives should be easy,
forgetting that you walked a difficult road.
Sometimes we resent it when we suffer,
forgetting that you suffered deeply to set us free.
Sometimes we become enchanted by our own pain,
forgetting that you were broken open to feel the pain of the world.
Hear us now as we offer our silent prayers for healing and
reconciliation...**

[Silence]

Sung response “Take, O Take Me as I Am” MV #85 (repeat)

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

Offering Our Gifts

Offering Song “Grant Us, God, the Grace” (VU #540)

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.**

Listening for God’s Word: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened,

and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Contemporary Singers

Response to the Reading “By Another Road”

Time for silent reflection

Lifting our Voices in Song “Who Is My Mother” MV #178

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is the table of Jesus Christ, a banquet prepared for everyone. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith, all who seek wholeness and compassionate paths to peace and justice, are welcome here.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, God of hope, Giver of all life,
Source of love that knows no boundaries.
At your word creation dawns. Under your rainbow the floods recede.
With a burning bush you hallow the earth.
By a pillar of fire you guide your people.
We praise you that you do not abandon us.
You place a child in Mary's womb and a star in the eastern sky.
You send Jesus to be a light to all nations.
He brings sight to the blind and healing to the sick,
hope to the despairing and justice to the oppressed.
Though, in our ignorance and fear, we reject, betray and crucify him,
You, O God, raise him from the grave, transforming death into life,
despair into hope, fear into love.
Therefore we join with all creation to sing your praise:

Sing "Holy, Holy, Holy" VU #951 (repeat)

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, God!

Remembering Jesus at Table

At this time, we remember Jesus, who on the night before he died,
took a loaf of bread, blessed it, broke it, and said,
"Take, eat; whenever you do this, remember me."
Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks, and said,
"This is the cup of the new covenant;
when you drink from it, remember me."

Prayer for the Spirit

Gracious God, Source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one.

Make us, though broken, whole.

Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

At this time, we also remember all those with whom you would have us
share your feast.

We pray for all who are in sorrow or pain....

all who are ill or alone....

all who live with fear, oppression or hunger....

all whom the world counts as last and least....

We pray for your church and its varied ministries....

for the nations as they strive for peace and justice....

for the earth, and the fragile web of life we share....

for our families and friends....

Gathering all these prayers into one, we say together:

**Our Mother and 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.**

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

**Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith,
and for the sake of the world.**

[All are welcome to share in the feast of communion.]

Sharing the Elements "Bread for the Journey" MV #202

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, God, for breaking into our world

and pouring into our lives and our experiences.

We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving

and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.

Lifting our Voices in Song "A Light is Gleaming" VU #82

Words of Blessing

Sung Amen "Ameni" MV #219 (repeat 3x)

Ameni, ameni, amen, amen, amen, ameni.