

Strathearn United Church
8510 – 95 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T6C 1Y7
Ph. 780-466-5822 Email:strathearn@shaw.ca
Minister: revsandy01@gmail.com
Web: www.strathearnuc.com



THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Our Living Statement... Strathearn United Church is a loving Christian community living by faith and action, communicating through worship, education, fellowship and outreach, greeting the future with hope.

Minister	Rev. Sandy Ferguson
Minister Emeritus	Rev. Dr. Don Mayne
Music Director	Kathryn Wood
Musician	Shannon Hiebert
Office Administrator	Rena Spiess
Custodian	Rup, Coverall Services

PRAYER CYCLE OF THE WEEK

Church Family: Gertrude Meakin, Michele & Garry Meijer,
Sheila Meidinger, Gwen Melinchuk, Valerie Melville
Within Strathearn United: Trustees
Northern Spirit Region: Two Hills Pastoral Charge
World Council of Churches: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman,
Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Strathearn United Church welcomes you to our Morning Worship where all are welcome!
16th of January 2022, the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

We, the congregation of Strathearn United Church, are situated on Treaty 6, traditional lands of the First Nations and the Metis People.

WELCOME & GATHERING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

"It is not that God is the spectator and sharer of our present life, howsoever important that is. But rather that we are the reverent listeners and participants in God's action in the sacred story, the history of the Christ on earth." Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community

HYMN: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" VU264

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise;
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee!

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OPENING PSALM 36:5-10

One: Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens. Your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains. Your judgments are like the great deep. You save humans and animals alike, O God. How precious is Your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of Your wings. They feast on the abundance of Your house. And You give them drink from the river of Your delights. For with You is the fountain of life. In Your light we see light. O continue Your steadfast love to those who know You. And Your salvation to the upright of heart!

A UNITED CHURCH CREED

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

One: In confession there is an opportunity, and there is a risk. To be open to God invites the presence of God into our lives. Are we ready for where God might take us?

All: **God in this holy moment we gather before You
We thank You for this time. A time to be honest
as we accept that sometimes we may struggle
in our faith. And we may wonder, what do we
say to You? Maybe it is best to start by offering
this. God, hear our prayer... (Silence)**

One: God have mercy.

All: **Christ have mercy.**

One: God have mercy. With our willingness to be sorry, God invites us to be touched by grace, and begin anew in faith. Let it begin with prayer...

All: **Our 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, and the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN: "God, Who Has Caused to Be Written: VU498

1 God, who has caused to be written your word for our learning, grant us that, hearing, our hearts may be inwardly burning. Give to us grace, that in your Son we embrace life, all its glory discerning.

2 Now may our God give us joy, give us peace
in believing all things were written in truth for our thankful
receiving. As Christ did preach, o'er all the world love
must reach: grant every day love's achieving.

3 God, should the powers of the earth and the heavens
be shaken, grant us to see you in all things, our vision
awaken. Help us to see, though all the earth cease to
be, your truth shall never be shaken.

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WE SHARE IN GOD'S WORD

FROM PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

One: The Word of God, for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up
and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.*

The Gospel of Mark 1:35

One: God, we gather before You to give thanks. We
give thanks for all who are Your light in the world
Who do what they can to bring compassion, hope
and justice into the lives of others. Who are willing
to reach out and ask, 'what can we do for you?' In
silence, God, we bring to You the names of those
who have been Your light to us. (Silence) God,
we bring our prayers to You. Our prayers for a
better world. Our prayers that we will have the
strength, courage and compassion to embrace

and enact Your vision of how this can be a better
world. We pray for a world ravaged by COVID-19
and the ways it has changed so much of what was
once familiar. We pray for those who struggle in
these times of economic, political and social
turmoil. For those who oppression and yearn for
justice. And God, we pray for Your church that we
may be a light to those who struggle. And God we
come to You with the prayers of our hearts. For
those who we know who struggle with illness of
the mind, body and spirit. For those who are alone.
For those who yearn for connection. These
names we bring to you. (Silence) Amen.

HYMN "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" VU575

- 1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

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SENDING FORTH:

One: As Paul reminds us, we have all been blessed by God with gifts. Let us in the days ahead find opportunities to share these gifts. And in doing so be a moment where the Kingdom of God is revealed. Amen.

LECTIONARY READINGS

January 23: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19;
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Visit us: Youtube, Facebook, www.strathearnuc.com

Pastoral Care: For after hours pastoral emergencies, please call Rev. Sandy at 780-490-7799, for all other concerns, please call the office during regular business hours and leave a message. You may also call the committee chair, Jo-Anne Balla at 780-417-9294.

Update from the Board:

- ❖ In response to the existing COVID-19 cases situation, Strathearn's Official Board has decided, as a precautionary measure for our staff and congregation, that, until further notice, we will cancel in-person worship services, including the previously scheduled ones on January 9 and 23.
- ❖ Also, as there is no government lockdown in effect, other users of our facility will be able to use their own judgement to determine whether they will continue to conduct in-person activities in obeyance with government parameters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS continued...

Book Club: The next meeting is March 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm on Zoom. We are reading "State of Terror" by *Hillary Clinton and Louise Penny*. To receive the link to join the meeting, please call Kathryn Wood at 780-293-0752 or Nancy Tysick at 780-468-1352.

JANUARY CALENDAR:

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| Jan 16: | Ed Met Chamber – Walker, 2:00 pm |
| Jan 17: | Scouting Group Meeting – Family Rm, 7:00 pm
Ed Met Chorus – Walker, 7:00 pm |
| Jan 18: | Cubs – Walker, 6:30 pm |
| Jan 19: | Brownies/Scouts - outside, 6:30 pm
Choir - Sanctuary, 7:00 pm
Official Board Meeting (Zoom), 7:00 pm |
| Jan 20: | GANG (folding fabric) – Jr Rm, 10am - 2pm |
| Jan 21: | Chinese Phil – Walker Hall, 8 pm |
| Jan 23: | Youtube Service – 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany
Ed Met Chamber – Walker, 2:00 pm |
| Jan 24: | Ed Met Chorus – Walker, 7:00 pm |
| Jan 25: | Cubs – Walker, 6:30 pm |
| Jan 26: | Brownies/Scouts - outside, 6:30 pm
Choir - Sanctuary, 7:00 pm |
| Jan 27: | GANG (folding fabric) – Jr Rm, 10am - 2pm |
| Jan 28: | Chinese Phil – Walker Hall, 8 pm |
| Jan 29: | Ukulele Practise – Junior Rm, Noon |
| Jan 30: | Youtube Service – 4 th Sunday after Epiphany
Ed Met Chamber – Walker, 2:00 pm |
| Jan 31: | Ed Met Chorus – Walker, 7:00 pm |
| Feb 1: | Mission & Outreach: Outward Journey -
"28 Days of Giving" (Details TBA) |