

Strathearn United Church

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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

LECTIONARY READINGS

November 29 (1st Advent): Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Strathearn United Church welcomes you to our
Morning Worship where all are welcome!
22nd of November 2020, Reign of Christ Sunday
(Youtube Video Service)

WELCOME & GATHERING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

*The Church is a dynamic community that works,
clashes, keeps faith, stays active and lives in
expectation, hoping for Christ's return*
- Archbishop Oscar Romero

HYMN: "When a Poor One"

VU702

- 1 When a poor one who has nothing shares with
strangers, when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the wounded in their weakness strengthen others,

Refrain:

**then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.**

- 2 When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems
hopelessness, when we love though hate at times
seems all around us, **R**
- 3 When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing, when
our lips can speak no words other than true, when
we know that love for simple things is better, **R**
- 4 When our homes are filled with goodness in
abundance, when we learn how to make peace
instead of war, when each stranger that we meet is
called a neighbour, **R**

Refrain:

**then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.**

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A NEW CREED: VU918

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:**

*Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our trespasses as
we forgive those who trespass against us" not forgive
us and smite those who hurt us.
Adapted from Nadia Bolz-Weber*

**All: God, we proclaim the reign of Your Son, yet
too often it is our reign we wish to establish.
The gifts You share with us, we twist to fulfill
our own desires. And Your creation suffers
God, forgive us and through Your grace
renew us so once more we will serve You**

**rather than trying to reign over Your creation.
This we pray in the name of Your Son, Christ
the King.**

One: God have mercy on us.

All: Christ have mercy on us.

One: God have mercy on us.

At the heart of the Reign of Christ is this
revelation, God has loved us, loves us now and
will always love us. This is the Good News that
brings us new life! Let us celebrate together in
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: "Lord, Speak to Me"

VU589

- 1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let me seek
your straying children lost and lone.
- 2 O lead me, so that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet;
O feed me, so that I may feed
your hungering ones with manna sweet.

- 3 O teach me, so that I may teach
the precious truths which you impart;
and wing my words, that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.
- 4 O fill me with your fullness, Lord,
until my very heart o'erflows
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.

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WE SHARE IN GOD'S WORD

Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 25:31-46

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

All: Thanks be to God

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SERMON

OFFERING INVITATION:

Thank you for supporting Strathearn United Church by maintaining your PAR payments or envelope givings during this time of virtual weekly church services. For new donors or those able to offer further support, you can do so by going to our Facebook page or website at strathearnuc.com and following the link to CanadaHelps.org. When you make a voluntary donation, CanadaHelps will issue you a tax receipt.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

God, make your will known to us, and be patient with us. - Adapted from Common Prayer

One: God, we gather before You in prayer. God, we give thanks to all who serve in such days. Who serve to bring healing, comfort and hope in these trying days. May we not forget what they endured on our behalf. May we give thanks for the people in our lives who walk with us in these days and in silence, we give thanks for their presence... (Silence). God we struggle, and we pray for Your compassion that allows us to be at peace with that. Let us be honest with ourselves, we live in difficult times, and sometimes we struggle to be the best that we can be. We are weary. But let us struggle and be honest with ourselves, knowing that God is with us in these moments, caring for us, being with us. God we pray for our world and those who yearn for hope. A world struggling with many crisis, natural and human-made. The ongoing challenge of COVID-19. Conflicts around the globe. Economic turmoil around the world and our province. We pray for anxious staff and parents struggling over the return of kids to school and universities. 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: "When I Needed a Neighbour" VU600

1 When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there? When I needed a neighbour, were you

there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

- 2 I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there? I was hungry and thirsty, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 3 I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there? I was cold, I was naked, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 4 When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there? When I needed a healer, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 5 Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there, wherever you travel I'll be there. And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

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SENDING FORTH:

One: The Reign of Christ here now and awaits us! So, let us celebrate it in the lives of those we serve, as they celebrate its reality within us! Amen.

PRAYER CYCLE OF THE WEEK

Church Family: Shires Family, Bob & Linda Sinclair, Anne Shobbrook, Simkins Family, Barb & Gerry Sinn

Within Strathearn United: Official Board

Northern Spirit Region: McClure United, Edmonton

World Council of Churches: Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Update from the Official Board:

- In December we will plan for 2021 Worship, and also look at other In Person and virtual activities. Please watch for future details.
- We've changed in-person service rules to allow limited socializing while maintaining physical distancing and wearing masks.

Emails, Links & News: Phone the office, or check us out on Youtube, Facebook or www.strathearnuc.com.

Our Renters and Groups: We have no custodian at this time. Washrooms are closed. If you need to access rooms and supplies, please call the office first.

Strathearn United Church Calendar:

Nov 29: In-Person Service / 1st Advent, 10:30 am

Dec 6: 2nd Advent (Youtube) / Zoom Communion

Dec 6: Mission & Outreach Events start (details for *No Room In the Inn*, *Bissell White Gift* and *Mitten Tree* will be available November 29)

Dec 13: 3rd Advent (Youtube only)

Dec 20: In-Person Service / 4th Advent, 10:30 am

Dec 24: Zoom Christmas Eve Service (7:00 pm) and Youtube Service (There will not be an In-Person service; Carols will be in both services.)

Dec 25: Merry Christmas!

Dec 27: 1st Sunday after Christmas (Youtube only)
(Office Seasonal Closure TBA)