ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH SEPTEMBER 23, 2018



Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming and Inclusive community

Welcome to St. David's United Church

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Sunday, September 23, 2018

Presiding: Peggy McDonagh

We gather in faith as a Christ-infused church

SEED FOR MEDITATION

"Church isn't where you meet. Church isn't a building. Church is what you do. Church is who you are. Church is the human outworking of the person of Jesus Christ. Let's not go to Church, let's be the Church." - Bridget Willard

"Connection, along with love and belonging, is why we are here, and it is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives." - Brene Brown

PRELUDE

Praeludium in G minor

Gott sei gelobet und gebendeiet

F. Tunder H. Scheidemann

NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY AND GREETING

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND CREATION CANDLES

We light the Christ candle and give thanks for the community connections that we experience that invite us to embrace each other in love, to welcome one another with acceptance, and to bask in the present brightness of the Christ light.

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Come into this circle of community. Come into this sacred space. What is your place in the circle, how do you contribute to its life?

FOCUSING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

We gather together

in the name of the One who bids us come.

Welcome to this place:

where children and seasoned citizens sit side by side, where heaven and earth embrace in peace, where God has been, is, and always will be.

Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's people:

where we find God's love.

where we hear the tender voice of acceptance, where the Spirit teaches us new songs.

Welcome to this place, where hearts are open

where we bring our hunger, and find food; where we our brokenness, and find healing; where we bring our very selves and find acceptance.

We gather together

to sing praises of the God of Life and Love.

Come, let us worship!

HYMN This is the Day

VU #412

1 This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made, that our God has made;

we will rejoice, we will rejoice,

and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made.

2 Open to us, open to us

your gates, O God, your gates, O God;

we will go in, we will go in,

to your holy place, to your holy place.

Open to us your gates, O God,

we will go in to your holy place.

Open to us, open to us

your gates, O God.

3 You are our God, you are our God,

we will praise your name, we will praise your name;

we will give thanks, we will give thanks,

for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.

You are our God, we will praise your name,

we will give thanks for your faithfulness.

You are our God, you are our God,

we will praise your name.

4 This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made, that our God has made;

we will rejoice, we will rejoice,

and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made,

we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day

that our God has made.

GATHERING PRAYER

We are here again, God, a community of faith, in fellowship together
Friends, strangers, colleagues, neighbours
Short, tall, rich and poor, young and old.
An assortment of people with one purpose and one aim
To learn, to grow, to discover and to worship.
Be with us in our diversity
Join us in our unity
That we might leave this sacred space
Knowing that we have met not only with each other
But also with you. Amen.

...to seek and respond to the wisdom of God

FAITH CHAT

A NEW 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.

COMMUNITY COVENANTING RITUAL (see insert)

SONG We are the Church AGCS #84

CHORUS

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together! All who follow Jesus, All around the world! Yes, we're the church together!

The church is not a building, The church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, The church is a people! CHORUS

We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces, All colors and all ages, too from all time and places. CHORUS

And when the people gather, There's singing and there's praying, There's laughing and there's crying sometimes, All of it saying: CHORUS

I count if I am ninety, or nine or just a baby; There's one thing I am sure about And I don't mean maybe: CHORUS

READINGS 1 Corinthians 12: 12-26; Quote by Mark Twain; *a* Zen Saying; Quote by Lucius Annaeus Seneca also known as *Seneca*, a Roman Stoic philosopher (c. 4 BC – AD 65); Quote by Craig D. Lounsbrough, Author, Speaker, Counsellor

ANTHEM Lift Up Your Heart

S. DeFord

REFLECTION 'What will we risk'

HYMN With Gifts that Differ by Your Grace

(Tune: VU #164) (Text: Ruth Duck)

With gifts that differ by God's grace the Spirit fits us all, that Christians in each time and place may answer to God's call. God strengthens some to take a stand, to prophesy, or preach, while others give with open hand, or calm the sick, or teach.

And yet, because our faith is frail, we bury gifts God gives. Afraid to risk, afraid to fail, we are not free to live. At times we use our sacred gifts for only selfish ends. Our purpose fades, our focus shifts, and conflict soon attends.

Come, Spirit, build your church anew, that all may do their part, together finding life in you, diverse, yet one in heart. So, may your people seek your will, transformed in all our ways. We offer body, mind and skill, a sacrifice of praise.

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY Thankful C. Bayer Sager, D. Foster & R. Page/arr. M. Hayes

RECEPTION OF OFFERING/DEDICATION

In Gratitude and Humble Trust

VU #518 vs 3

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you, not just to serve your cause, but share your love with neighbours too.

O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your son, help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY PRAYER

For each member of this worshipping fellowship. For the diversity of gifts and talents expressed within it.

We thank you, God of Life

For those whose gifts have yet to be discovered.

We thank you, God of Grace

For those who consider themselves of little worth in this world but in your eyes are of immeasurable value.

We thank you, God of Grace

For all who seek to serve you in this place and in this world, that your love peace and grace might be seen in the simple actions of living.

We thank you, God of Life

God of Life, it is our hope to experience your essence and grace in more clearly within and around us, through listening in the quieter moments of our lives.

Forgive those times when our minds are distracted, when our lives become so busy, when tensions and fears occupy our lives and we lose touch with our hearts.

Draw near to us in the difficult moments of our lives, for those moments of sadness, the struggles with illness, the loss of hope, the searching for answers, the delight of celebrations; enfold us with the warmth and security of your love

That we might know the peace and serenity of your fellowship.

May our community energy of compassion extend out to countries and people far and wide who are experiencing violence, hunger, displacement, terror, and illness.

That they might know the calm and assurance of your comfort and healing.

In a moment of quietness, we can allow our thoughts to centre on the God of All Life, energy moving through all, love enfolding each heart (silence) In a moment of quietness, we reflect on our own worth in God's eyes, and the value of each member of this fellowship to the life of the body. (silence)

In a moment of quietness, we can pray for the building up of this body, for each member to understand his or her own gift and talent, and for no one to think himself or herself as worthier than another. (silence)

We join in the singing the Lord's Prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

VU #959

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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.

HYMN We Have This Ministry

VU #510

1 We have this ministry and we are not discouraged; it is by God's own power that we may live and serve. Openly we share God's word, speaking truth as we believe, praying that the shadowed world may healing light receive.

We have this ministry, O God, receive our living.

O Christ, the tree of life,
 our end and our beginning,
 we grow to fullest flower
 when rooted in your love.
 Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,
 called to service by your grace,
 different cultures, different gifts,
 the young and old a place.
 We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.

3 The yoke of Christ is ours, the whole world is our parish; we daily take the cross, the burden and the joy.
Bearing hurts of those we serve, wounded, bruised and bowed with pain, Holy Spirit, bread and wine, we die and rise again.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.

. . .and are blessed.

BENEDICTION

May love be the spirit and reality of this community and our covenant be:

to dwell in peace, to seek truth in love, to help one another, and to honor each other.

May compassion, justice and kindness direct your actions this week, until we gather again. Go in the light and with the love of God.

GRACE VU #549

For all your goodness, God, we give you thanks. Thanks for the food we eat, and for the friends we meet; For each new day we greet, we give you thanks.

POSTLUDE Praeludium in A minor G. Bohm

COMMUNITY WELCOME BACK LUNCH

GROWING AND DEEPENING OUR LIVES THROUGH WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL NURTURE

September 30, 2018
Clare Beers & The Men's Chorus
Special music by Laryssa Warne – violin
& David Dixon – piano

WELCOME TO ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH

We hope that your heart is touched, your faith inspired, and your spiritual life deepened in this gathering time and worship experience. If you are visiting for the first time please know that you are welcome, you are valued, and you enhance this sacred place by your presence.

If you wish to know more about St. David's, please fill in a "Response Card" found at the back of the Sanctuary and place it in the box or the offering plate.

Thank you for making this a scent free environment. It is a joy to have you with us today, please be welcomed and embraced. Please join us following worship in the TM room for conversation, coffee/tea and fellowship. Washrooms are opposite the front entrance and in the basement.

The Rainbow Room Nursery is available for infants to pre-school age, downstairs at the end of Robertson Hall. Easy Listener hearing devices are available from the ushers.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Voices United hymn book, at the back of the church, or from an usher. If you would like to have contribution envelopes, please contact the office. Tax receipts are issued at the end of the year for all identified donations and offerings. If you give through PAR, PAR cards are available from the ushers to be placed on the offering plate as a symbol of your offering given through PAR.

PRAYER CONCERNS The prayer chain is committed to praying for you in times of crisis for a period of 30 days. Please contact the office or one of the ministers.

FLOWERS enhance our church services each Sunday. Remember loved or joyous occasions all year with donations to the flower fund. Dedications are placed in the worship folder.

If anyone has celebrations or events they wish to have acknowledged in the worship folder or newsletter, please contact the office administrator at the church office at 403 284-2276 or admin@sduc.ca no later than Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL CARE If you have any pastoral concerns about yourself or others please contact Peggy McDonagh at the church office. If you know someone who is in long term care, in hospital or needs a visit, please contact the office.

We need your help ... in a congregation the size of St. David's it can be difficult to know who has not been present in worship for some time. If you are aware of someone you have not seen for a while, please contact the office or contact the people and let them know that they are missed. As a congregation, we all must be aware of one another and acknowledge those absent to ensure everyone feels cared for and valued. Let us all do our part to keep connected.

THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Greeters	September Sacred Service Team
Ushers	September Sacred Service Team
	David Mitchell & Dorothy Duker
	Wendy Dey
	PSALT Team
	Dorothy Duker
	Angel Voices, Diane Bertram - soloist
	Colleen Charter

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

Peggy McDonagh	Minister, Congregational Operations and Worship	peggy@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #104
Chantal Winslow	Office Administrator	admin@sduc.ca	Gen Voice Mail
Brent Tucker	Music Director	music@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #106
Wayne Holst	Adult Spiritual Development Ministry	asdm@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #113
Alison Demeter	Minister of Families	children@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #109
Wally Pelley	Custodian		Gen Voice Mail
Paige Martin	Accountant	accounting@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #107
Stephanie Price & Trent Burke	Faith Quest Leader		Voice Mail #110

ST. DAVID'S WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. Sept 23	10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm 2:30 pm	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Welcome Back Lunch – Robertson Hall Youth Group – Youth Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
Mon. Sept 24	12:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Best Beginnings – Robertson Hall Sparks – TM Room Brownies – Robertson Hall Girl Guides – Robertson Hall ACTS Book Study – Tm Room Angel Voices - Sanctuary
Tues. Sept 25	6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo Church of Christ – Sanctuary & TM Room Council Meeting – Robertson Hall
Wed. Sept 26	9:30 am 10:00 am 2:30 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Qigong – Robertson Hall Staff Meeting – TM Room Worship Committee Meeting – TM Room True Light – TM Room Adult Recreational Choir - Sanctuary
Thurs. Sept 27	9:30 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	ACTS Bible Study – TM Room True Light – TM Room Pastoral Care Wellness – Robertson Hall Chamber Choir Practice - Sanctuary Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Fri. Sept 28	4:00 pm 6:00 pm	Anthony Edmunds Music Lessons – Lacombe True Light – TM Room
Sat. Sept 29	10:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	McDougall Stoney Mission Society – TM True Light – Robertson Hall Men's Chorus - Sanctuary Shalom – TM Room Drama Rehearsal - Sanctuary True Light Church – Robertson Hall

Sun. Sept 30	10:00 am	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Refreshments – TM Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
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