



Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., March 24, 2024 **PALM SUNDAY**



MISSION STATEMENT

"St. Andrew's United Church is a progressive worshiping community dedicated to spiritual growth, caring, and inclusivity that is providing outreach to the community and the world."

Our worship leader is Neil Colmin. Karen Purdy is on the piano/organ with Jenna Nash also leading the choir; their music brings life and joy to our Sunday mornings!

Please note: We will not be passing the plate; there is a box for your donations at the Sanctuary entrance.

Please join us for coffee and refreshments after the service!

Announcements:

Celebration Box:

Congratulations to you. May the dear Lord bless you. May God's special blessing descend upon you.

Lighting of the Christ Candle: The Lord is my light and my salvation. Jesus, the Light of the World. Amen

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Call to Worship:

We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people. **Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!**

Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming king.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth.

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven! Amen

Hymn VU #357 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Children's/Young at Heart Time:

Opening Prayer:

God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts, from hope to despair to hope again.

As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd, help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake.

As the story unfolds, open us to both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, **prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. Amen**

Scripture Reading:

1st Reading John 12: 12-16 2nd Reading: Psalm 118, parts 1 & 3 (page837) Gospel: Mark 11: 1-11

Response:

These are our words from scripture. May God bless our understanding.

Reflection:

Hope

Hymn VU #122 All Glory Laude and Honour

Offertory Prayer & Dedication:

O God, Jesus taught that where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also.

In this hour, we come bringing our treasures, all that we have

and all that we are.

We come seeking your treasure, treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint.

O God, you provide us so many wonderful gifts that make our lives worth living. The gifts of family and friends, the gifts of love and laughter, the gift of your son Jesus. As humble servants it is right that we should show our gratitude and give back. May the gifts of our time, talent and treasure be used for God's work and glory. Amen

Communion (insert)

Minute for Mission

Response Hymn VU #468 Let Us Talent and Tongues Employ

Prayers of the People:

Final Hymn VU #427 To Show by Touch and Word

Blessing and Sending:

Living Skies Regional Council Prayer Cycle 2024 March 24

Community Living Homes Four Town (*Bredenbury, Langenburg, Saltcoats*) Gray

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's worship service. Please remember that St. Andrew's United is "Scent-Free".

Latest news from St. Andrews:

Attendance March 10 - 37 Local: \$1001.00 Other donations: M & S: \$49.70 PAR – Monthly - \$1133.00, M&S - \$120.00 Please see Cheryl if you want to start donating through PAR or increase you monthly donation for 2024.

Church Phone #: (306) 692-0533 Church office e-mail: st.andrews.mj@sasktel.net www.facebook.com/StAndrewsUnitedChurchMooseJaw

Announcements:

NEW: Advance notice: Proposals to Regional Council meeting June 13-15 Proposals to Regional Council or to General Council are the main avenue for asking the church to adopt policy positions or take specific and relevant action. They use a template for consistency and to ensure that all the needed information for representatives and commissioners is included. The Regional Council template will be updated and posted after Easter. Please begin to consider and discuss proposals relevant to the Regional Council, as there will be a deadline for proposals that come to the floor, to allow delegates enough time to read and reflect in advance.

Updated: Invitation: Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage in your community In this season of Lent, and beyond, pilgrims in 125 countries are mapping the 41 km length of the Gaza Strip, by walking in prayerful solidarity with the people of Gaza, with all hostages and captives, and calling for a durable ceasefire. These pilgrimages are not demonstrations. They are times of deep lament, contemplation, and community solidarity. They can take place in communities of any size, in any configuration, with any partners, well into the spring and summer. Please consider a pilgrimage for your community and contact Regional Minister Julie Graham at jgraham@unitedchurch.ca if you'd like the simple planning resource being developed. Please see the global website for principles, resources, and more. A Regional Council pilgrimage summary is posted here. https://livingskiesrc.ca/invitationworldwide-gaza-ceasefire-pilgrimage/

NEW: Reminder: 2024 Living Skies Regional Meeting, 13-15 June in Saskatoon. The meeting will be held in person with a Zoom option 13-15 June 2024 at the Saskatoon Travelodge Hotel and Conference Centre. We will begin with opening worship and the Affirming Celebration on the Thursday afternoon. Business will be conducted Friday June 14. Saturday June 15 will be a day of learning, conversation, and small group work with the Moderator, Rt Rev Carmen Lansdowne, open to all members and friends of the Regional Council. Please consider coming. Sunday June 16 our service of praise and celebration of ministries will be held at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. As always, visitors are most welcome and delegates of the Regional Council are both welcome and expected. Pastoral charge support of delegate expenses is requested, and the Regional Council itself also subsidizes the entire meeting. Please watch for registration, theme information, report deadlines, an invitation to share greetings and photos from your ministry, and much more! All information will be posted on our Regional Meeting page.

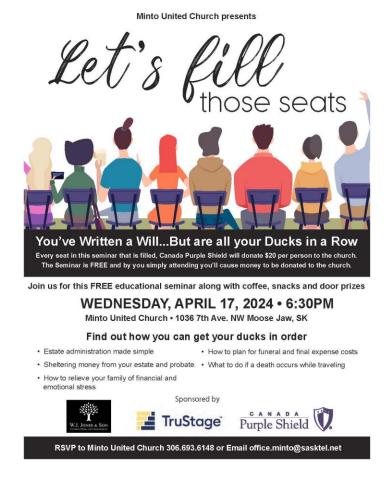
NEW: Advance notice: call for General Council 45 Commissioners In 2025 we'll celebrate the United Church's 100th birthday and see a return to an in-person General Council in Calgary. It's going to be a big and busy year. Important preparation for the 45th meeting of the General Council will include the election of General Council Commissioners, who serve a three-year term, attend the inperson meeting, and attend multiple online meetings through those three years as part of the overall governance of our church. Your Regional Nominations Committee will soon launch a process for identifying people who wish to stand for election, which takes place at their Regional Council meeting. For now, here's the description of a commissioner's role for your discernment pleasure. Please share it freely.

NEW: Jordan Cantwell, our new Growth Animator has an offering about composting and renewal. https://livingskiesrc.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2024/03/Compost.pdf

NEW: Wait- Is This Racist, new online community to explore anti-racist practices! Beginning Monday, April 22 at 6:00 PM CDT, 5:00PM CST/ MDT. Together, we'll be drawing from some of the themes of the book Wait—Is This Racist? A Guide to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church to explore very practical ways of co-creating anti-racist congregations. This will not be a book study! Reading the book and using the provided assessments will be useful, but it is the shared experiences of learning and implementation that are what will change our communities. As part of the first session, Kerry Connelly, the author, will join us. There will be lots of support along the way. Full description: "Wait—Is this Racist?" on Church X, the national church's online learning platform.

YAYA Spring Youth Retreat – April 26-28, 2024, at Knox Met United Church in Regina. Grades 7 – 12 are welcome. Cost: \$50 (with funding available if needed.) See here for more info.

Updated: An Invitation: Sask. UCCW AGM and Gathering: Saturday, April 27, 2024, At St. David's Trinity United Church (3318 Merritt Street, Saskatoon). The Saskatchewan United Church Women's Gathering is for all women of The United Church of Canada. Full details, a poster and registration form are all found in the Living Skies Regional calendar announcement. Cost is \$30 and Registration Deadline: April 19, 2024. Please note the requests for "In Memoriam" material, nominations and more.



Committee meetings

UCW – 1st Wednesday @ 2 pm Outreach – 2nd Thursday @ 4pm Worship – 3rd Friday bi-monthly @ 9:30am Choir practice – Sundays 9:30 a.m.