



BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Norm Laird

Organist and Choir Director: Robert Don

November 16th, 2008

27th After Pentecost

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: #7 MV, Gather Us In

Words of Gathering:

Come in, all who seek refreshment.

We give our tiredness to God.

Come in, all who seek comfort.

**We find comfort and support from God
and one another.**

Come in, and experience Joy.

The Joy of God is our strength.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn: 222, Come, Let Us Sing

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Prayer of Humility: (together)

**Holy and wondrous God, we are together once more,
sisters and brothers, in this our community of faith
and love. Thank you for the blessings of this past week.
May we find inspiration, wisdom, and love anew,
to take us into the week ahead... (continue to pray as you
choose...)**

Assurance of Love

Hymn: 639, One More Step Along the World I Go

Children's Time

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture:

Genesis 12:1-5 *p. 10*

The Call of Abram.

Matthew 25:14-30 *p. 28*

The Parable of the Talents.

Reader: This is the Word of God as it is written
in our Christian scripture.

All: The written word of God is enlightened
by the living Word of God that is within us.

Choir Anthem: I Am the Dream *-S. Curtis Tufts/Rick Gunn*
(*More Voices # 106*)

I am the dream and you the dreamer.

I am the song and you are the rhyme.

You are the tune sung in ev'ry silence.

You are the now in the endless stream of time.

(*Reproduced with permission from United Church Publishing House
and Wood Lake Publishing Inc.*)

Sermon

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THE RESPONSE

Hymn: 634, To Abraham and Sarah

Minute for Mission:

“Getting to Know an M&S-Supported Theological Centre”

Offering and Prayer of Dedication: (together)

Here, God, is our commitment to you. We will use these gifts for the betterment of the church, for the well-being of our community, and for service in the world. We will use the totality of our lives for the same purpose. Amen

Prayers of and for the people and the prayer from Jesus
(Translation - 916 VU)

Hymn: 145 MV, Draw the Circle Wide

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen

Postlude

† † †

The Life and Work of the Congregation November 16th, 2008.

Good morning and welcome! We are glad you came! **Visitors** are asked to sign our guest book in the vestibule. **All are invited** to the auditorium following the service for refreshments and visiting.

Coffee (regular and decaf.) and juice are being served in the narthex each morning before the service. This is an opportunity to socialize prior to the Sunday worship services and is one way congregations are engaging in the **Emerging Spirit Campaign**.

Lauretta Collison will be 102 years young on November 19th! We will have a birthday cake in her honour after the service today. Please join us in wishing her a Happy Birthday.

Also, following the service today, Peter Prebble, a former MLA, will speak to us on the tar sands. Initial development of the tar sands of Northern Saskatchewan has begun. Learn what is at stake with this work for the environment, for the province and for you. Peter Prebble will speak to this issue. He makes a balanced, considerate presentation. **Please plan to stay for a sandwich lunch at 11:45 (silver collection), followed by Mr. Prebble’s presentation.**

This morning:

Head usher: Earl Killoh

Ushering and greeting: Dorothy McKnight, Jim Osborne
and Barbara and Armand Bourassa

Reader: Ken McKnight

Today’s bulletin is sponsored by Jack Newman.

This week Norm will be in his office for part of the day Thursday and Friday. Feel free to drop in if you see his car parked in its spot.

To help prevent the spread of colds and flu-like illnesses, please remember to use the **hand sanitizer** that is provided on the table in the narthex and on the table at coffee time.

A martial arts group will be meeting in the gymnasium this evening. Please stay for a few minutes after coffee time, if you can, and help put away the tables and chairs. Thank you.

'Music for a Sunday Afternoon': Appreciation is expressed to members of the Choir and the people who participated in any way to make the November 2nd event a success. As well as it being an enjoyable afternoon, with entertainment provided by professional musical performers, the church realized \$1,000 for the general fund.

Please check your church mailboxes for the annual participation sheet. The Stewardship Committee needs your input and commitment in order to plan for 2009. Please return them to the church office or on the offering plate by November 30, 2008.

'Hanging of the Greens': Next Sunday, November 23rd plan to stay after the service and help decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please bring a potluck lunch item: last name starting A-M bring sandwiches; last name starting N-Z bring cookies (suggested). Please plan to attend, as more help is needed with decorating.

Wednesday, November 26, 1:00 p.m. in the lower hall: It is that time of year again when the women (and any creative men) of the congregation are invited to gather to make wreaths and other Christmas decorations. All supplies will be provided and the proceeds from the decorations will be donated to the church. Barb Bourassa will show us how to create beautiful festive decorations. Coffee and tea will be provided but if you would like to bring a few goodies to share that would be great. Please let Barb or Jeanette know if you will be coming so they can set up the appropriate number of tables.

Samples of the 2009 Bulletin Covers are in the church office. If you wish to sponsor a bulletin to honour a loved one, a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, the cost is \$30. All contributions are tax deductible. **2009 Canadian Church Calendars** are also available - \$5.00.

Meals on Wheels: Volunteers are needed to continue delivering meals. The sign-up calendar is on the literature table. Bethel's coordinator is Shirley McKay (374-4883).

Check out Bethel's website for general information about our church, our service and news and events. The site address is: www.bethelsaskatoon.com or go to the WonderCafe site and do a church search using either the church name or postal code. **Any information for our website** must be forwarded through the church office. Information from a source, other than the church office, will not be posted.

Come join us after the service
Sunday, November 30th
Sunday School students will be making
Biscuits
St. Andrew's Auxiliary ladies will provide
dainties and refreshments.
Silver collection proceeds will go to
St. Andrew's Auxiliary
(This is in lieu of the tea which the Auxiliary
sponsored in previous years.)

"Challenging Empire", a course on the theme of social justice, is being held for 5 weeks at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Room. The next study date is **Tuesday, November 18th**. The term 'empire' was well known in Jesus' time but it does not have the same meaning today. In these five weeks we will learn the meaning of 'empire' for our time and how we in Canada are affected by it. We will discuss what the words 'global south' mean and how our lifestyle affects these people. We will hear stories about how we benefit and how we are complicit in empire's impact on other people, and all of creation. Finally, we will develop ways to challenge empire and create alternatives to it. Come and join us for a time of interesting and informative discussion. **There is no cost for this workshop and all are welcome. Rev. Jeanette Liberty-Duns will be the facilitator.**

Bethel Art Group meets Monday mornings from 9:30-11:30 in the Upper Room. Each person works in his/her medium of choice. No special talent is needed and new members are always welcome.

Other Church and Community Events:

-The Prairie Centre for Ecumenism will sponsor "A Multifaith Reflection on Restorative Justice...an evening of shared perspectives", **Wednesday, November 19th**, 6:00-9:30 p.m. Pamphlets (green) are on the literature rack in the narthex.

-The Language of Faith: "How We Talk About What We Believe": A dessert-and-video-and-discussion event facilitated by Rev. Michael Webster at St. Martin's United Church, **Thursday, November 20th** from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

-The Fun and Friendship group at Grace-Westminster U.C. Turkey Supper, Friday, November 21st, followed with Christmas carols. At 8:00 pm, guest, Brian Trainor, will speak on the topic, "Scams, Shams and Flim Flams". Call 653-1766 for information.

-Osteoporosis Canada (Saskatoon Chapter) Educational Forum, Saturday, November 22, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

-Goodie Shoppe at Grosvenor Park U.C., November 22nd.

-'Caring, Sharing, Remembering Candlelight Service', Wednesday evening, November 26th, 7:30 p.m. at Knox U.C.

-Mayfair United Church is hosting a Dinner Theatre, "Captain's Outrageous" – A Comedy by David Deboy; directed by Dennis Beerling, beginning Thursday, November 27th.

Saskatoon Children's Choir (SCC), Annual Christmas concert "Sing Choirs of Angels", November 28 and 29, at 7:30 pm at Third Avenue United Church. Tickets, \$17, (reserved seating) from McNally Robinson Booksellers, and at the door.

-Knox United Church Bake Sale with crafts, seasonal gifts and chili lunch (\$5.00), **Saturday, November 29** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

-St. Martin's UC Music Ministry Presents "The Sounds of the Season", Sunday, November 30, 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15. Admission \$5; all seats rush; refreshments to follow.

-World AIDS Day, Annual HIV/AIDS Candlelight Vigil, December 1, 6:30 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Church in Bishop Klein School, 1121 Northumberland Ave. Everyone welcome.

-Christmas Tea & Bake Sale, St. Martin's U.C., 2617 Clarence Ave., **Saturday, December 6**, 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Free-will donation.

(Please see bulletin board next to the church office for posters on the above and other events.)

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

-Bethel Art Group, 9:30 (Upper Room)

-Cubs, 7:00 (Social Hall)

Tuesday:

-Beavers, 6:30 (Social Hall)

-"Challenging Empire" social justice study, 7:00 (Upper Room)

-22nd Bethel Scouting Group Admin. Team, 8:00

Wednesday:

-Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.

-Scouts, 7:00 (Gym)

Thursday:

-Holliston Unit, 1:30 (Kitchen)

Advance Notice:

-Outreach Committee will meet Saturday, November 22, 2:30 pm at the church.

-UCW Annual Meeting and Potluck, Monday, November 24th, 12:00 noon.

-Property Committee (6:15 p.m.) and **Church Council** (7:00 p.m.) Thursday, November 27th.

Scripture readings for next Sunday, November 23rd will be available later this week.

Stewardship Seconds 2008 - November 16th:

Stewardship does not put God in a box labelled "church on Sunday". Stewardship brings God to every part of daily life, and speaks out against oppression wherever it is found.