

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 17, 2021  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGINA

**OUR MISSION:** Christ calls us to be faithful disciples who strive to be joyful in our worship, tender in our life together, and daring in our outreach.

We acknowledge we worship on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional homeland of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and the Métis Nation.

Minister: The Rev. Amanda Currie

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

The one who calls you together this day yearns for each of you and for all people to hear and be blessed.

**Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

Blessed is the One who comes bringing trustworthy words for the healing of the world.

**Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

Prayer of Approach

Hymn: You are before me, Lord #101

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care.**

**We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will.**

**We have failed our communities, neighbours, families, friends, and ourselves.**

**Give us ears to hear your wisdom.**

**Lead us to honesty and faith**

**so that we may begin again with renewed strength; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Children's Time

Hymn: Lead me, Jesus; I will follow #646

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

1 Samuel 3:1-20

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Sung Response: **I praise you for I am wonderfully made.**

**R** O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.**

**Even before a word is on my tongue,**

**O Lord, you know it completely.**

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;**

**it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

**R**

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Wonderful are your works;**

**that I know very well.**

**My frame was not hidden from you,**

**when I was being made in secret,**

**intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

**Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.**

**In your book were written all the days**

**that were formed for me,**

**when none of them as yet existed.**

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

**I try to count them - they are more than the sand;**

**I come to the end - I am still with you.**

**R**

John 1:43-51

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Ministry of Music

Cade Eastwood

"Be thou my vision"

Sermon: *I Saw You Under the Fig Tree*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymn: I was there to hear your morning cry

We Present our Gifts to God

Offertory

Doxology (#830) and Prayer of Dedication:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME**

Hymn: Take my life, and let it be #637

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen (#780): **Amen, amen, amen.**

Aaronic Blessing (#619):

**The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you his peace.**

Postlude

**HYMNS for Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup>**

#101 – You are before me, Lord

**You are before me, Lord; you are behind,  
and over me you have spread out your hand;  
such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
too high to grasp, too great to understand.**

**Then from your Spirit where, Lord, shall I go,  
and from your presence where, Lord, shall I fly?  
If I ascend to heaven you are there,  
and still are with me if in hell I lie.**

**If I should take my flight into the dawn,  
if I should dwell on ocean's farthest shore,  
your mighty hand will rest upon me still,  
and your right hand will guard me evermore.**

**If I should say, "Let darkness cover me,  
and I shall hide within the veil of night,"  
surely the darkness is not dark to you:  
the night is as the day, the darkness, light.**

**Search me, O God, search me and know my heart:  
try me, O God, my mind and spirit try:  
keep me from any path that gives you pain,  
and lead me in the everlasting way.**

#646 - Lead me, Jesus; I will follow

**Lead me, Jesus; I will follow,  
down the dusty pathways,  
all along the sea.  
Teach me, Jesus, to be loving:  
your disciple I will be.**

**Descant:  
Open my eyes that I may see;  
I will serve you: your disciple I will be.**

I was there to hear your borning cry

**I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.**

**I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.**

**I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the Word,  
I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.**

**If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.**

**When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.**

**I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.**

#637 - Take my life, and let it be consecrated

**Take my life and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days:  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold:  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart: it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.**

### **Pray with your First Church Family**

*Whether you are worshipping with us online or receiving this  
bulletin and sermon by mail, please join us in prayer.*

### **Please pray for...**

- Jane Powell and all the family and friends of Gary Belore who died on Sunday, January 10th.
- People who are feeling alone, unseen, or unloved.
- Individual Christians who are discerning what God may be calling them to do with their time and gifts.
- Those who are sick or injured in our congregation, including Eva Roesner, Margaret MacDonald, Sharon Miller, Marianne Woods, Dan Ireton, and Carole Cann.
- All who are sick with Covid-19 and for the health workers who are caring for them.
- The leadership in the United States, as they respond to violence and the inciting of violence.

### **Praise God for...**

- The good news that God see us, knows us completely, and has good plans for our lives.

- The difference we can make in our communities and world when we respond to God's call.
- All who have recovered from Covid-19, and the care they received to help them through the illness.
- The technology available to us to our ministry by mail, telephone, video conference, and livestreaming.
- Our church family and the love we continue to share with each other even when we cannot gather together.

### **This Week at First Church**

Jan. 17	12:15 pm	Sunday School
	1:00 pm	Coffee Hour
	2:30 pm	Ecumenical Hymn Sing
Jan. 19	noon	Freedom 55'ers
Jan. 20	7:00 pm	Board of Managers
Jan. 21	1:00 pm	Bible Study
Jan. 24	10:30 am	Worship
	12:15 pm	Sunday School
	1:00 pm	Coffee Hour

**Office Hours** Mon.: 8:30 – 11:00 am; Wed. to Fri.: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. Contact Shirley at the office at 306-522-9571 or [firstpresregina@sasktel.net](mailto:firstpresregina@sasktel.net).

Rev. Amanda Currie works from home most days and from the office occasionally. You can continue to reach her by phone or text message (306-580-8095) or by email ([revfpc@sasktel.net](mailto:revfpc@sasktel.net)). A physically-distanced pastoral visit is always possible, as well as a phone call or Zoom video call.

**Givings and Envelopes** The pandemic has changed the way we do many things! Our offerings have continued to be strong and we thank everyone in the congregation for their generous givings! Many of you have turned to e-transfers, which are quick and easy to complete online. To send an e-transfer, just choose Interac Transfer in your online banking and send it to [firstpresreginaoffering@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresreginaoffering@gmail.com) (with "What street is the church on?" as the security question.) Some of you have set up automatic withdrawals through the PAR program, so that your offering automatically comes out of your account once a month. If you are interested in that,

please contact Shirley in the church office. Others in the congregation send cheques by mail, or drop them off at the church, and these contributions are appreciated as well. For those of you who are using the paper offering envelopes, we do have the 2021 envelopes, as we purchase them early in the year. But the church was closed before we had a chance to set them out for pickup. You can pick up your envelopes from Shirley in the church office - just contact her to make an arrangement. Or, if you would like them mailed out, we can do that. We won't be mailing them all out, but once the church re-opens, we will set them out for pickup.

### **"Half an Hour of Hymns" for Christian Unity**

On Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm we will livestream "Half an Hour of Hymns" from First Church (with a few ecumenical guests) as we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Join us as we sing together into greater unity and cooperation between Christian denominations. Sing along live on the FirstPresbyterian Facebook page (as usual) or later at [www.curriejesson.ca](http://www.curriejesson.ca)

**B.I.N.G.O!** *...and we have a winner!* Mark your calendars! The Fellowship Committee is hosting a Bingo and Games night on Friday, January 29 at 7pm. Get rid of those January blahs and plan to join us for a "Zoom along" Bingo and Games night.

We will e-mail you the link for the Bingo sheets and you can print as many as you like. Just rip up pieces of paper, use old pennies or markers of any kind to cover your squares. If you don't have a printer and can't print the Bingo sheet, but would like to join in the fun on Zoom, please let us know by calling Shirley at the office (306)522-9571 and we will make arrangements for you to get them. Plan on bringing your favourite beverage, and a snack to enjoy while the games are on. Hope to see lots of you there.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity virtual 8-day Bible study 2021** Hosted by the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism and the Regina Council of Churches, this study is free and open to all. A different Christian leader will guide us each day as we explore the theme "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit" (John 15:5-9).

Join us Monday, January 18 to Monday January 25 from 12:15-1:00pm CST (except Sunday, Jan. 24 at 1:00pm CST) Register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/wpcu-bible-study-2021-tickets-135920448721>.

The 2021 theme calls us to pray and to work for reconciliation and unity in the church, with our human family, and with all of creation. Drawing on the Gospel image of vine and branches, it invites us to nourish unity with God and with one another through contemplative silence, prayer, and common action. Grafted into Christ the vine as many diverse branches, may we bear rich fruit and create new ways of living, with respect for and communion with all of creation.

The daily themes are as follows:

- Day 1 - Monday, January 18th: **Called by God:** "You did not choose me but I chose you" (John 15:16a)
- Day 2 - Tuesday, January 19th: **Maturing Internally:** "Abide in me as I abide in you" (John 15:4)
- Day 3 - Wednesday, January 20th: **Forming One Body:** "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12b)
- Day 4 - Thursday, January 21st: **Praying Together:** "I do not call you servants any longer...but I have called you friends" (John 15:15)
- Day 5 - Friday, January 22nd: **Letting Oneself Be Transformed by the Word:** "You have already been pruned by the word..." (John 15:3)
- Day 6 - Saturday, January 23rd: **Welcoming Others:** "Go and bear fruit, fruit that will last" (John 15:16b)
- Day 7 - Sunday, January 24th: **Growing in Unity:** "I am the vine, you are the branches" (John 15:5a)
- Day 8 - Monday, January 25th: **Reconciling with all Creation:** "So that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11)

**WPCU Online Ecumenical Service:** Finish up the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by joining Christians across the country in prayer. Register to attend this service planned by the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism (Montreal) on Sunday, Jan. 24 at 3pm (Eastern). The service is bilingual. Register to receive the Zoom or YouTube links at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdvWflnQX5\\_187OOoiXcWKWgmDkwGJXY5mYZHSNJXq9Njp-GA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdvWflnQX5_187OOoiXcWKWgmDkwGJXY5mYZHSNJXq9Njp-GA/viewform)