

3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 13, 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 kingdom of God is like a mustard seed,
which is the smallest of seeds on earth;
**it grows up and becomes the greatest of shrubs,
and the birds of the air make nests in its shade.**
Give thanks to God, whose promised reign is coming.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Approach

Hymn: For the fruits of all creation #802

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Holy God,
the parable of the mustard seed teaches us that
a little faith can produce great work in your kingdom.
Yet we are too timid
to bear the fruit of your righteousness,
for we walk by sight and not by faith.**
**Forgive us, Lord;
we do not uphold the poor or the oppressed.
We do not advocate for the powerless or the voiceless.
We do not sacrifice ourselves
for the needs of our neighbours.**

**Renew us with the love of Christ
so that we live no longer for ourselves,
but for Christ who became the seed of your
righteousness in us. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Children's Time

Hymn: Seek ye first #625

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 20

Sung Response:

**Some take pride in chariots and horses:
ours is in the name of the Lord our God.**

**R The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!
The name of the God of Jacob protect you! R**

May the Lord send you help from the sanctuary,
and give you support from Zion.

**May the Lord remember all your offerings,
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices.
May the Lord grant you your heart's desire,
and fulfill all your plans.**

**May we shout for joy over your victory,
and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. R**

Now I know that the Lord will help the anointed one;
and will answer from the heavenly sanctuary
with mighty victories by God's right hand.

**Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.
They will collapse and fall,
but we shall rise and stand upright.**

Give victory to the king, O Lord;
answer us when we call. R

Mark 4:26-34

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Ministry of Music

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Philip Ledger

Sermon: *A Resting Place for All*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and 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: Ka mana'o'i 'O MV#103

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: In the bulb there is a flower #674

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 June 13th

#802 - For the fruits of all creation

For the fruits of all creation, thanks be to God;
for the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just rewards of labour, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvest we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvest of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

#625 - Seek ye first

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia!

MV #103 - Ka mana'o 'I 'O

Refrain: Ka mana'o 'I 'O o Ko Ka-kou A-ku-a.
Faithful, faithful is our God. (x2)

In love there is no one more faithful than our God,
who brings the light in to our darkness.
The God who shares the breath of life with you and me,
all living things upon the earth. Refrain

In quiet moments God whispers tenderly
the mystery of unending love.
For God is good, and holds us as we sleep,
to wake us to the morning light. Refrain

The mercy of our God we seek to share each day,
to help each other on our way,
to be God's hands and heart with tenderness and care.
God's faithfulness is always there. Refrain

When we share love, we share respect and care,
the gifts and bonds of human kindness.
And in our journey, may love lead the way.
To be God's living, sing this day. Refrain

#674 - In the bulb there is a flower

In the bulb there is a flower,
in the seed, an apple tree,
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning,
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing,
in our life, eternity,
in our death, a resurrection,
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

Pray with your First Church Family

Please pray for...

- The Kingdom of God to grow in our world until there is a resting place for all to live in safety and peace.
- People who have been victims of discrimination and injustice in society and in the church.
- The Afzaal family and the Muslim community in London, and for the end of hatred and violence.
- The ministries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada that promote justice and hospitality for all people.

Praise God for...

- Jesus' assurance that the Kingdom of God is a growing thing – springing up among us in new acts of unconditional love and welcome every day.
- The glimpses of God's Kingdom on earth that we experience in our church community as we welcome one another in love.
- The continuing roll-out of vaccines in Canada and around the world.

This Week at First Church

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| June 13 | 10:30 am | Worship |
| | 1:00 pm | Coffee Hour |
| June 15 | 7:30 pm | Young Adult Gathering |
| June 16 | 7:00 pm | Board of Managers |
| June 19 | 10:00 am | Presbytery of Assiniboia |
| June 20 | 10:30 am | Worship |
| | 1:00 pm | Coffee Hour |

First Presbyterian Church Presents "Gabe Omolida on Piano" - a Benefit Concert in support of the First Church Refugee Sponsorship Project on Sunday, June 13th at 7pm.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has slowed down the arrival of our refugee family from South Sudan, but we are continuing to raise money to support the Matthiang/Thiey family during their first year in Canada. We are more than halfway to our goal of \$60,000 but need to keep up the momentum so that we are ready to welcome them when they come. Gabe Omolida has kindly put together a piano recital for us to enjoy, share, and respond to with our thankful gifts for this mission of hospitality.

At age 9, Gabe Omolida started taking piano lessons, following the program of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Canada. His passion for music made him pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance with a Major in Piano. Currently he is going into his fourth year of undergraduate studies at the University of Regina. During the school year, Gabe is an active member of the Halcyon Choir and the University of Regina's Chamber Choir. He teaches piano to younger kids and also accompanies for other music students. He has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2011, and is a Music Scholar and on the Music Team. Being deeply involved with the musical aspect at First Church, he often plays for the worship services and accompanies the choirs, as well as sings in them. Gabe Omolida plans to continue his studies in music in hopes of becoming both a university professor and a performer.

The concert will feature music by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin and Lili Boulanger. You're invited to watch on YouTube (link will be provided soon) on Sunday, June 13th at 7:00 pm (or later, as the concert will stay up on the site).

Your freewill offering for the First Church Refugee Sponsorship Project will be deeply appreciated. Send an e-transfer to firstpresreginaoffering@gmail.com with a note that it is designated for "Refugee Sponsorship" or send a

cheque (payable to First Presbyterian Church) to 2170 Albert Street, Regina, SK S4P 2T9.

General Assembly 2021

The 146th General Assembly met online from June 6-9, 2021. Although the time frame was short, the use of omnibus motions to pass recommendations that had strong support of the commissioners as reflected in an advance poll, a great deal of important work was accomplished.

If you would like to catch up on everything that happened and was decided at Assembly, go to <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/ga2021/> where you can read the highlights from each day, watch videos of various presentations, or even read the full reports of the committees.

The most anticipated decision of the 2021 General Assembly concerned the Remits about same-sex marriage and the ordination of LGBTQI people.

Lengthy discussion dominated the meetings on Tuesday regarding Remit B and C on the Committee on Remits report. After years of prayerful debate and study, and much passionate and heartfelt discussion, The Presbyterian Church in Canada agreed to make changes to its theology and practice regarding marriage, permitting people to choose to define marriage as either as a covenant relationship between a man and a woman or a covenant relationship between two adult people. These decisions provide Presbyterian ministers with liberty of conscience and the freedom to choose to officiate or not officiate at the marriages of same-sex couples. Additionally, the church agreed that LGBTQI people (whether married or single) can be ordained and are welcome to serve as ministers and ruling elders.

These decisions accompany other resolutions about policies and programs that will help the church include LGBTQI people more fully in all aspects of ministry. The church will also prepare a confession to all individuals and congregations that have been harmed by the church's exclusion of LGBTQI.

Presbyterian World Service & Development India is currently in the midst of a dramatic surge in COVID-19 cases, threatening its healthcare system and leaving already vulnerable families in crisis. For more than a week, over 300,000 cases have been diagnosed daily. So far over 220,000 people have died in India and the crisis is only worsening. Immediate needs are access to health care, medical supplies, and medicines, particularly oxygen. There is an urgent need to educate people on risk prevention and address vaccine hesitancy. Vaccine supply is insufficient and inaccessible to many, leaving herd immunity out of reach.

PWS&D is preparing to respond with its partners and ACT Alliance members in India to support people who are sick or quarantined at home with provisions to buy medicines and for other emergency needs. Additionally, they will work with communities to share messages on infection prevention and control, as well as information on vaccines.

Donations can be made through the church office, cheques made payable to First Presbyterian Church, memo line: PWS&D - India COVID crisis.

Summer Office Hours Mon. to Thurs., 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.
Contact Shirley at the office at 306-522-9571 or 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). A physically-distanced pastoral visit is always possible, as well as a phone call or Zoom video call.