

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 16, 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 and Prayer of Approach

Hymn: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet #496

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**God, though you call us to delight in your teachings,
we can become cynical and full of doubt.
Do not judge us, we pray,
but heal us and restore us to you.
Guard us and protect us from evil,
and sanctify us in truth;
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Children's Time

Hymn: Dance with the Spirit

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

Sung Response: **Like a tree that's planted by the water,
we shall not be moved.**

R Blessed are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;
**but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on that law they meditate day and night.**
They are like trees
planted by stream of water,
which yield their fruit in season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they flourish. R

The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
**for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish. R**

John 17:6-19

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Ministry of Music

Cade Eastwood

Sermon: *Nominations, Please!*

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: By the Well, A Thirsty Woman

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: What a friend we have in Jesus #746

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 May 16th

#496 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet

Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Refrain

I will not forget your love for me, and yet
my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end.

Refrain

MV#156 - Dance With The Spirit

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life abornin',
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

MV #117 - By the Well, a Thirsty Woman

By the well, a thirsty woman
found the life that you could give,
we, too, thirst like empty vessels
fill us full that we may live.
Jesus, source of living water,
Wellspring bubbling deep within,
By the waters of our baptism
wisdom, purpose life begin.

Plant us firm, like trees by water,
send out roots down deep in you,
quench our parched and thirsty spirits
with your water, pure and true.
Jesus source of living water,
Nourisher of all the earth,
By the waters of our baptism
quicken growth and give new birth.

May we be your streams of justice,
as the water, may we move
through your people by your Spirit
showing mercy, sharing love.
Jesus, source of living water,
Groundswell forcing truth to view,
By the waters of our baptism
set us free to live for you.

#746 - What a friend we have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear;
what a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer.
Oh what peace we often forfeit,
oh what needless pain we bear,

all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness:
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
in his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.

Pray with your First Church Family

Please pray for...

- Ambreen Ferozdin and her family who are grieving. Ambreen's sister-in-law died from Covid-19 this week.
- The family of Joan Frew who will hold a graveside service for her this week (Joan died from Covid-19 in December 2020.)
- Those who feel alone and vulnerable, who need to know they are being upheld by our prayers and the prayers of Jesus.
- All Christians to immerse ourselves in God's Word of life, that we may be nourished to produce good fruit.

Praise God for...

- Jesus' prayers for us as we navigate the anxieties and challenges of daily life.
- The diverse gifts and experiences of God's people who are called to follow Jesus and serve God in the world.
- The successful vaccination of more than 70% of people 40 years and older in Saskatchewan.

This Week at First Church

May 16	10:30 am	Worship
	12:15 pm	Sunday School
	1:00 pm	Coffee Hour
May 18	noon	Freedom 55ers
May 20	7:00 pm	Board of Managers
May 23	10:30 am	Worship: Pentecost Sunday <i>Wear RED to celebrate the flames of the Holy Spirit!</i>
	12:15 pm	Sunday School
	1:00 pm	Coffee Hour

Office Hours Mon.: 8:30 - 11:15 / Wed. to Fri.: 8:30 am – 3:00 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.

Pentecost 2021 Please join the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism and Christians across Saskatchewan online to worship and to pray for the unity of the Church and the healing of the world on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd at 3pm. Streamed live from 3rd Avenue United Church, Saskatoon. You will find the link at www.pentecost2020vision.com.

In a time of pandemic fatigue and suffering, increased separation and isolation, it behooves us as part of the body of Christ - the church, to cry out to God for mercy and help, and to do so together.

The service will feature musicians and singers from several churches as well as a homily/message prepared by three leaders, sharing it together.

With hope and faith, we will be able to worship and pray in person soon.

KAIROS Canada REGISTER TODAY: KBE Teaching & Sharing Circles - Summer Session begins May 18

Register today for a KBE Teaching & Sharing Circle – interactive, Zoom-based sessions that build positive relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people through truth, sharing, and open dialogue. This summer, six public sessions will be offered from 7-9pm ET, including:

- Tuesday, May 18 - Medicine Wheel Teachings (new topic!)
- Tuesday, June 1 - The Impacts of Residential Schools
- Tuesday, June 15 - Métis Teachings
- Monday, June 21 - We are All Treaty People (National Indigenous Day)
- Tuesday, June 29 - Social Injustice in the Court System
- Tuesday, July 20 - The Importance of Growing Gardens

<https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/event/>

For more information, visit our websites:

www.kairoscanada.org and www.kairosblanketexercise.org.

Signs of Life in the Local Church: May 2021 Webinar

Series Each Thursday in May, starting May 6, from 3 to 4pm (Saskatchewan time) on Zoom.

- May 20: Blessed to be a Blessing ... The Stewardship of Opportunity with Rev. Dr. Tim Beadle (co-founder of the Rural Church Pastors Network & Missional Engagement Team Lead, Foothills Alliance Church, Calgary)
- May 27: To the Regions Beyond: Spiritual Care in Under-served Areas with Rev. Dr. Robin Haensel (Director of Church Development, Canadian Midwest District, Christian & Missionary Alliance Church)

Free registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqf-ytqzosGdVoDhE6gNcveFr2JjU4-WCd>

For further information, contact Archdeacon Cheryl Toth at stewardship@sasktel.net

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.

Creating Sacred Space Regina Multifaith Forum invites you to join them via Zoom for an evening discussion on creating your own sacred space during the pandemic. There will be presenters sharing their thoughts.

When: May 20 6:30 pm

Meeting ID: 883 4763 6167

Passcode: 139530

Why: An excuse to meet up with people

Bring your dessert and a blanket, or lawn chair to sit on, and have a lively chat.