



St. Thomas United Church  
Open Hands – Open Hearts – Open Minds

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## Sunday, September 16, 10:00 am Theme: UCW Recognition Service

† Indicates stand as you are able  
**Bold** indicates participation by the people

**MV** = More Voices  
**VU** = Voices United

PRELUDE: *Kari Orosz – “Don’t Stop Believin’”;*  
*by Steve Perry, Neal Schon, & Jonathan Cain*

WELCOME to our Livestream Worship Service

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY 7 AND REGION 3 LAND

GREETING ONE ANOTHER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*A wicker prayer basket will be sent around. If you have a prayer request, please print clearly on a prayer slip, place it in the wicker basket, and pass the basket along.*

†INTROIT: *Come, Children, Join to Sing (vv. 1&2)*

**VU#345**

CHRIST CANDLE & SILENCE

*Candle Lighter: Diane French*

Lighting of the UCW Candle (Circle of Friends)

There is an aboriginal legend that speaks of wisdom near the end of the evening, in which friends would gather around a fire and share their hearts and speak of the good qualities of each other and remember times shared with one another. As the embers faded, their friendship was said to be sealed anew, bringing them closer together. We light this candle that the UCW has lit many times before, representing the circle of all those gathered here today and

over the years, that it may remind us once more of those relationships sealed anew. Amen.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Strummers* – Love’s Gonna Live Here  
– by Buck Owens

CALL TO WORSHIP: **(Responsive)**

Holy One, we gather to give thanks,  
**for all those that have come before us and those that have laid the foundation of love in this place.**

We gather to mark moments in time;  
**to remember moments of joy shared in community and moments of change in our lives.**

We gather to recognize that all things do not stay the same,  
**and while change can be hard, as community we continue the journey, knowing the presence of all and the presence of God.**

OPENING PRAYER: **(Unison)**

**Holy God, we give you thanks for times in our lives when we gather as your people to know your love and celebrate your presence. We thank you for those in our midst who continue to show us the way forward and cast your light of love on our footsteps. Be with us now in this time of remembrance, this time of celebration, and this time of change, we pray. Amen.**

✠OPENING HYMN: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

**VU#382**

SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 112:1-9*

Reader: *Gloria Moffatt*

One: This is the witness of The Church.

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Strummers* – *Remember Me*  
– by Paul Rumbolt

CHILDREN’S TIME: *The Life and Work of St. Thomas UCW*

*(Children and Youth are invited to join their leaders at one of the entrances to the Sanctuary)*

THE MESSAGE: *“In Recognition of the UCW”*  
**And now, go with us God,  
into the days ahead.  
Strengthen us for peace.  
Give us wisdom, keep us humble,  
And may we live and work together,  
And so striving,  
Build a new and better world  
For tomorrow. Amen**

†HYMN: *Walk with Me*

**VU#649**

MINUTE FOR ST. THOMAS: *Thank yous from the ABNW Conference UCW from Barbara Davison, Past President of Alberta and Northwest Conference, United Church Women*

INVITATION TO OPEN HANDS

OPPORTUNITY TO OPEN HANDS  
with our Offerings & Prayers.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: *The Strummers – Walk on Faith*  
– by Mike Reid

†OFFERTORY: *God of the Sparrow (v.3)*

**VU#229**

†OFFERTORY PRAYER: ***(Unison)***

**Like the gifts of so many before us, O God, we come with these symbols of our faith. Bless these gifts that we offer, to the work of your people in this your church and around the world. With open hands, open hearts, and open minds, we pray. Amen.**

†CALL TO PRAYER: *And When You Call for Me* (2x) **MV#96**

PASTORAL PRAYERS (Leader) & PRAYER OF JESUS (Leader)

†HYMN: *We Are One* **VU#402**

COMMISSIONING: (**Responsive**)

Loving God,

**We remember the generations of women who have gone before us.**

We remember their wisdom and their love.

**We are grateful for these gifts given by You.**

We remember the generations of women surrounding us now, **sharing their wisdom and their love.**

We are grateful for these gifts passed on to us.

**We offer our prayers to the generations who come after us, that we may build on the wisdom and love of past generations and that we may continue to be the beacon of light for the future, we pray. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

We give great thanks to all who participated in making today's worship service a reality.