



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

Welcome to Worship!

St. Thomas United is an open, affirming, accepting, and child friendly faith community. With children present we expect noise and movement, so there's no need to leave the Sanctuary when it happens. If parents feel more comfortable with their children in nursery care, we have a nursery for babies & children under 3 years of age – just follow the posted signs.

We hope that your worship experience will feed you and challenge you on your faith journey.

Please talk to a greeter or the folks wearing an "Ask Me" badge if there's anything you are unsure of or have a question about.

There are Hearing Assistance Sets available. Ask a greeter or Ask Me person to get one.

We project everything you will need to participate in worship. You will also find hymnbooks in your seats if you'd prefer to use them.

Newcomers – please fill out one of our Communication Cards. This is our first opportunity to be in touch with you so that we can start to get to know one another.

Ministers: Rev. Tracy Robertson,
Rev. Justin McNeill

Office Manager: Sandra Dusoswa

Music Team: Pam Bazinet, Barb Robertson,
Dick Worton, Erin MacLean-Berko

Accompanists: Kari Orosz, Kloria Wen

Youth Leaders: Heather Robertson,
Eden Middleton

Sunday School & Nursery Coordinator:
Erin MacLean-Berko

Office Email: office@stthomasunited.ca

(A full version of this morning's liturgy is available
– just ask a Greeter or Ask Me host.)

Sunday, February 11, 2018

10:00 am

Theme: Transfiguration

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

Prelude: *Kari Orosz - "Stairway to Heaven"*
- by *Jimmy Page and Robert Plant*

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 Land

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Introit: *I Am the Light of the World (v. 1)* VU#87

Christ Candle & Silence

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Hymn: *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*
MV#104

Scripture: *Matthew 17:1-13*

Ministry of Music: *The Orchestra - Cathedral Grove*
- by *Robert Buckley*

Children's Time: *Indigenous Story Time - "When We Were Alone"*
- by *David A. Robertson and Julie Flett*

The Message: *Called to Resurrection*

Hymn: *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New*
MV#115

Minute for Mission: *Like a Family*

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

Ministry of Music: *The Orchestra - Winscott*
-by *Samuel Wesley*

Offertory: *We Three Kings (v. 1)*

Offertory Prayer

Call to Prayer: *Bathe Me in Your Light (v.1)*
MV#82

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Holy Spirit, Come into Our Lives* MV#6

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

The Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM): will be held **Sunday March 4, 2018** following the Worship service. The primary purposes are to present the year end financial statements for 2017 and the budget proposal for 2018, and to elect the new Executive Council for 2018. Correction to the February newsletter – the changeover to the new Council model is expected to be delayed and not available for presentation at the ACM. An insufficient number of potential members for election to the new Council are impeding implementation. Anyone interested in more information, please contact Linda Miller at 403-241-7899 or ljmill7@shaw.ca.

Please join us on **Ash Wednesday (February 14, 2018) at 6pm** in the Mountainview Hall for a pancake supper (thanks to MOST) and a short Ash Wednesday service.

Primetimers Social Group invites you to come for coffee and conversation on Friday, **February 16, at 10am** in the Narthex. Share your memories of the '88 Winter Olympics or a favourite trip or a family event. For further information contact Murray and Barbara Lees 403-286-4842.

Faith & Film Lenten Study: Each and every Wednesday between **Feb. 21 & Mar. 28** we will be taking a faith-filled look at different movies and examining how these films reflect the themes of Lent. Join us from 7pm-9pm as we watch a variety of films on our journey towards Easter.

Save the date!!!! **STUC on the Thommies.** Showcasing music from the Oscars. **Sat. March 3, 2018.** Times: 2pm. and 7pm. Followed by fabulous food and beverages in the Mountainview Hall. Invite your friends and family! Dig out your award winning dresses and tuxes...dress like a star! Or not! Tickets on sale now!

Calling all men! How would you like to be a part of the STUC shows this year? We have formed a men's group to sing "High Hopes" which won the Oscar best song award in 1959. Please give Pam or the office your name if you are interested in this short term singing project. We will have seven rehearsals on Sundays and a final full show dress rehearsal on Fri. March 2. Come and join the fun!

Habitat for Humanity - Online Auction Fundraiser

February 20th-March 7th you can bid on items to support Habitat for Humanity in Okotoks. To see the items and bid, visit www.habitatsouthernab.ca/events or contact Melinda-Rae Lyse at 403-926-2787 or melindaraelyse@altig.com. Check it out - there are some pretty incredible items and packages!

Please join us after the service on **Sun. Feb. 11**, for St. Thomas' first "**Lunch & Learn**" for 2018. The speaker will be Jackie Bromley from the Awo Taan Women's shelter. For more info, please see sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Avenue 15: The upcoming dates for cooking **Sunday dinners** are **Feb. 11** and **Mar. 11**. Please check your calendars and consider contributing your time on a Sunday afternoon (all costs for the food are covered by M&O).

For the month of February, the Youth Group is running a drive to collect items for Inn from the Cold! They accept all sorts of donations, but we have decided to focus on their newborn baby critical needs, as well as their cold-weather clothing needs. The newborn baby supplies include items like baby lotion, shampoo, wipes, diapers, and sippy cups, and the cold-weather clothing items they are looking for are sweaters, runners, and winter boots of all sizes. Due to health and safety policies, all items must be new. We would also like to take advantage of the free \$25 dollar gift cards that Loblaws, the head company for Superstore, is giving out. If you do not plan on using it, we encourage you to register and pass the card along to us to be donated to Inn from the Cold. We recommend that any Loblaws gift cards be given directly to a Youth Leader or a member of YAC, but any donations of warm clothing and newborn baby supplies can be left in the labelled box in the Narthex. A full list of donation suggestions will be also posted near the donation box! If you have any questions, feel free to speak with a Youth Leader or a member of YAC!

Veteran's Food Bank: Now that Christmas and all the extra appeals are over, please remember our veterans and their ongoing day-to-day needs. Bring your food donations and place them in the box just outside the Sanctuary doors. Thanks everyone.

The Calgary Drop-In Centre is running their 'Frosty Bites' campaign. They give out clear plastic bags filled with items such as gloves, toques, socks, lip balm, and hand cream. The kits also contain an info sheet on frostbite. Their goal is to have zero cases of frostbite this year. If you'd like to donate any of these items to the DIC, please leave them in the HUGS (Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks) box. Thanks! Elaine Gray

The Faith Formation series: "This Is the Story" bible study continues this Sunday, and through to Feb. 18. 11:30-12:30 in the Lounge.

August 18-19, 2018: In 2017, **Team 4 All** raised **\$47,200.26** with nine people riding **The Ride to Conquer Cancer** for the **Alberta Cancer Foundation**. So far in **2018, Team 4 All** has **20** people: more than double the 2017 **Team 4 All**! Come join us in 2018: everyone from clowns, to food, to hauling trucks, to riders of all kinds. The ride continues ... David Robertson, david.j.robertson@shaw.ca, 403-547-3123, <http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/DavidRobertson2018> or <http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/Team4All2018>.

A Moment of Peace: A meditative service is held every Monday morning at 10:45am and the last Monday evening of each month at 5:30pm.

Healing Touch will be offered in the Sanctuary by appointment on the first Tuesday evening (7pm and 8pm) and the second Thursday of each month (1pm and 2:30pm) until July.

Drumming Circle will be offered the second Tuesday evening of the month from 7-9pm, February until July. Registration is required and will be limited to 30 people.

2018 Contribution Envelopes are ready for pickup in the Narthex. If you do not currently use envelopes and would like some, add your contact information to the list in the Narthex. If you are converting to PAR, envelopes have not been issued for you. Note that you will be issued a new contribution number. If you have old boxes of envelopes at home, please throw them out, as your old envelope number may have been re-assigned to someone else. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, let the office know and you will be removed from the list.

Naramata Centre 2018: Naramata offers programs that inspire, entertain, teach, and allow space for individual expression for people of all ages. The Centre will be offering a variety of programs from mid May until mid Oct. You may also choose to go there simply to relax. For further information, check out <https://www.naramatacentresociety.org/programs/>
Program registration and accommodation booking opens Feb 6.

Any announcements, advertisements, or requests for non-church_related products, services, or donations to organizations contained in this bulletin/newsletter should not be interpreted as recommendations, endorsements, or permissions by St. Thomas United Church.

Sign Up for St. Thomas Announcements and E-Letters: Want to know what's going on? Sign up for announcements by filling out a Communication Card or calling the office at (403)241-0366.

The 2018 United Church of Canada Calendars are only \$5.25; get yours before they are gone.

Confirmation Classes are being held on the last Sunday of each month after church (as of Sept. 24). Anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Thomas United Church is encouraged to commit to participating in the classes on the following dates: Feb. 25, Mar. 11, 18, & Mar. 25. Confirmation Sunday will be Easter - April 1.

Building Sacred Bridges: Sponsored by the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Clergy Leadership Team. Looking for that special gift for loved ones? How about a memorable interfaith musical experience? Inspiring works by Muslim, Sikh, Christian and Jewish faith groups including an interfaith children's choir, and a faith band. **Sat. Feb. 10** at Knox United Church or **Sun. Feb. 11** at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. 7pm. Reserve tickets at www.habitatsouthernab.ca/bsb or "Building Sacred Bridges" Facebook page. For more information contact Melinda-Rae (melindaraelyse@altig.com)

Camp Kasota West: Camp Kasota West is a United Church camp on Sylvan Lake near Red Deer. It offers week-long residential camping experiences in July and August for children who have completed grades 1 – 9. It also offers counsellor-in-training weeks for youth who have finished grades 9 – 11, and sailing camps for youth who have finished grades 8 – 11. The rates are very reasonable. An early bird discount of \$40 applies to registrations received by March 24. Several St. Thomas children have attended over the years. Parents have described it as 'the best deal for summer.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Community Time After Each Service	
Sunday, Feb. 11	
9:00 am	Ukulele Rehearsal
10:00 am	Worship
11:00 am	Lunch & Learn
11:00 am	STUC on...Ladies' Rehearsal
11:30 am	Bible Study
12:00 pm	Men's Chorus Rehearsal
Monday, Feb. 12	
9:30 am	AM Fitness
10:45 am	Moment of Peace
1:00 pm	Bridge
6:15 pm	Sparks
7:00pm	Orchestra
7:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
7:30 pm	STUC on...Men's Music Rehearsal
Tuesday, Feb. 13	
1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Knitters
4:15 pm	Karate
6:00 pm	Brownies
6:30 pm	Pathfinders
7:00 pm	Drum Circle
7:00 pm	Building & Property Comm. Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 14	
9:30 am	AM Fitness
10:30 am	Cooking with Friends
1:00 pm	Art Group
6:00 pm	Ash Wed. Pancake Supper
7:00 pm	Youth Choir
7:00 pm	Wed. Night Book Club
Thursday, Feb. 15	
9:00 am	Quilting For Others
4:15 pm	Karate
5:45 pm	Sparks
6:00 pm	Children's Choir
6:00 pm	Strummers
7:15 pm	Adult Choir
Friday, Feb. 16	
9:30 am	AM Fitness
10:00 am	Primetimers
6:30 pm	Youth Group
7:00 pm	Sewing Group

Worship Services

Feb. 11 : The Transfiguration

Feb. 18 : Entering into Change

Feb. 25 : Called and Changed



Through our gifts we commit ourselves to live out the mission and ministry of the church. Please give generously to the Mission and Service Fund to make this possible.



St. Thomas is an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada. LGBTQ2 people are whole people and full members in this community of faith.

The United Church of Canada



St. Thomas is proud to be part of the United Church of Canada which ministers to close to 3 million people in 3,500 congregations across the country. (For more information about the United Church visit its website: www.united-church.ca)

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Today's Service

Thanks to everyone who helped make this Worship service a reality.