



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 begin 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, Caitlin Hornbeck

Sunday School & Nursery Coordinator:

Erin MacLean-Berko

Office Email: office@stthomasunited.ca

Sunday, November 4, 2018

10:00 am

Theme: **Commanded to Love**

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

Prelude: *Kari Orosz - "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" - by Sebastian Temple*

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 & Region 3 Land

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Introit: *Let All Things Now Living (v. 1)*

VU#242

Christ Candle & Silence

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Ministry of Music: *The Youth Choir—"Child of the Universe" by Craig Cassils*

Children's Time: *Baptism and Transfer of Membership*

Opening Hymn: *There Is Room for All MV#62*

Scripture: *Mark 12:28-34*

Ministry of Music: *The Adult Choir - "Dona Nobis Pacem" - arr. by Hal Hopson*

The Message: *The Way of Love*

Hymn: *My Love Colours Outside the Lines*

MV#138

Minute for Mission

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

Offertory: *As Those of Old Their First-fruits*

Brought (v. 3)

VU#518

Offertory Prayer

Call to Prayer: *Where Two or Three Are Gathered*

(2x)

MV#14

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Wherever You May Go*

MV#216

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

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

Hymn Sing—Sunday, November 4 at 9:45: The music committee decided to try having a hymn sing for 15 minutes prior to the first service of each month. The next one will be Sunday, November 4. There will be paper and a basket available to drop off your requests. There will be time to sing about three of the requested hymns.

The first Faith Formation Exploring Justice Lunch-and-Learn will take place after the service on **November 4**. The topic is "Experiencing Poverty".

Décor Committee will have a table at the front of the Sanctuary on **Sunday, November 11th** for photos, medals, any Canadian war memorial items from any war that the Canadian veteran served in. People are to bring objects to the table on Sunday morning, then take these same objects home after the coffee session. Please put names/dates/locations, etc. on the items brought in. Thanks.

Remembrance Day – Sunday, November 11, 2018: This year Remembrance Day falls on a Sunday. As a result, we here at St. Thomas are planning a special worship service to mark this time of memorial and dedication to the work of peace in our world. Please join us at 10 am as we gather for worship. Our worship will conclude with an Act of Remembrance at 11 am, with the help of our very own Dick Worton on trumpet.

Sunday School: Please note that there will be no Sunday School on **November 11**. We will have colouring at the side, and the nursery will be open for parents to use. There will also be no Sunday School on **November 18**, our Intergenerational Service (all ages welcome!). There will be supervision in the nursery.

Primetimers: You are all welcome to attend our coffee party on **Tuesday, November 13, at 10:00 am** in the Narthex. Save the Date: Our annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, December 4 at 11:15 am**. See our poster in the Narthex for further details. Remember to sign up!

Junior Youth Group Social Event: Junior Youth Group is for Grades 4—6 preteens. They meet once a month for fun and community building. The children are encouraged to bring their friends. The next Junior Youth Group is on **Friday, November 23** from 6:30—8:30. Volunteer leaders are Sam Abel, Evangeline Robertson and Matthew Worton. All youth attending are requested to fill out a registration and waiver form the first time they attend during a school year. Forms are available on the website at <http://stthomasunited.ca/Junior-Youth-Group.aspx> or at the Church the night of the meeting.

Junior Youth Sunday Morning: On **Sunday, November 25** during the service, there will be a special program geared towards children in Grades 4—6. It will be led by one of the Junior Youth Leaders. The children will start the morning in the service and then leave for their program when the rest of the Sunday School and the Senior Youth Group leave. Friends are always welcome.

St. Thomas Choir Performs at Carnegie Hall! St. Thomas Adult Choir has been invited to sing in the premiere of 'The Winter Rose', a Christmas cantata by Joseph M. Martin. Twenty members of the adult choir will be heading to New York to sing in this premiere at Carnegie Hall on November 26. A dozen family members of performers will be going as well to join the audience. This cantata will form the basis of the 8 pm Christmas Eve service at St. Thomas.

15th Annual Wild Game Dinner Wednesday, **November 28 at 6 pm**. The dinner menu will include: Lasagna – MOOSE or DEER or BEEF, also gluten-free lasagna, salad and buns, plus a selection of super scrumptious desserts! So, please mark your calendars and plan to join us. Your hosts (again): Barb and Bill Cousens at bcous@shaw.ca or 403-239-5422.

Faith and Film Movie Discussion November 28 at 7 pm in the Lounge (after the Wild Game Dinner). We will be discussing the movie "Hidden Figures". Just like a book study, **you watch the movie on your own** (available via Netflix or a friend) and come to the discussion ready to share your insights. Hope to see you there!

Parents Day Out will be Saturday, **December 1 from 9:30 am to 2 pm**. This is a chance for parents to drop off their children while they go Christmas shopping, or for breakfast, or a workout, or lunch, or back to bed! Drop off your kids any time after 9:30 am (with a brown-bag lunch in hand); pickup is at 2 pm.

Healing Touch will be offered in the Sanctuary by appointment on the first Tuesday evening (7 pm and 8 pm) of each month.

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

Welcome Back Knitters: The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:30 pm in the 2nd floor Lounge. All are welcome to join in. Please direct any questions to: Sandra Burgess (403-701-3479).

Quilting for Others: Join us to make compassion quilts for charity and congregants. No experience necessary. Our quilts are generally made from scraps, so if you are unable to join us, we are always looking for donations of 100% cotton material, thread, or batting. For more information or to donate items, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or hopeco7@gmail.com.

Avenue 15: Our Sunday dinners at the shelter for homeless youth have started up again. We are looking for volunteers for the following dates: **December 16, 2018 and January 20, 2019**. If you are unable to help make dinner, we are always looking for items for donation to the shelter, such as toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, condoms, make-up, gently used clothing, teddy bears, and sample size/hotel shampoo, conditioner, and soaps. All undergarments, toiletries, and make-up **MUST BE NEW**. If you have any questions or donations, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or hopeco7@gmail.com.

Veterans Food Bank: Please continue collecting food for the Veterans Food Bank as it is badly needed. Delivery is still guaranteed. We will let the congregation know when we hear more news about the changes in its location and operation. Thank you everybody!

Sunday School: All funds collected for the Sunday School offering this year will be going towards "Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids", a local charity that supplies lunch for over 4,400 children in Calgary. \$2 provides a child with a healthy lunch, made from fresh ingredients. We hope you will support this new initiative!

The 2019 United Church of Canada Calendars Are Here! They are only \$6; get yours before they are gone. They are available in the Narthex on Sunday or in the office.

St. Thomas' Paths to Reconciliation Team is looking for more members! If you have an interest, questions, or ideas about the subject of creating right relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, please contact either Elaine Gray (sarahegray@telus.net), Anett Chicomny-Pon (anett@shaw.ca), or Rev. Tracy Robertson (tracyrobertson@stthomasunited.ca).

Hillhurst United Church: The Right Relations Circle of Hillhurst United Church meets regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All are welcome. To find out more about events concerning the Indigenous community in Calgary, you may add your email address to their mailing list by either contacting Helena Lamb at right.relations@hillhurstunited.com or by signing up using the sheet on the Mission & Outreach notice board in the St. Thomas Narthex.

A Night in Zambia Fundraiser: November 17, 7 pm-9 pm, at Scarboro United. We hope that you can join us for a fun and informative evening that will showcase a gallery of photos of Zambia that will be available for purchase, music by local university music students, and storytelling from the travelers. Ticket cost includes: entry, a fancy drink, appetizers, and one door prize ticket. Proceeds from the evening will be split evenly between the Campus Ministry and Kwama Home Based Care. Adults \$30, Student/Senior \$20, Child (3-17) \$10. Purchase tickets through nightinzambia.brownpapertickets.com.

2018 Stewardship Campaign—Loving Our Neighbours: Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Stewardship Campaign! For the past few weeks St. Thomas has sought to **Inspire, Invite, and Thank You** for making our community such a warm and vibrant community and you have responded with **Open Hearts, Open Hands, and Open Minds**. Thank you very much to everyone who returned their pledge forms! If you haven't returned your pledge card yet, don't worry, you still have time. The return box will be in the Narthex through November and we will be updating everyone as we get closer to our goal of 101 returned forms! Together we are making a difference in our community and in our world! Thank you!

November Birthday Celebration will be held on **Sunday, November 18**. Once again we will be honouring everyone who is celebrating a birthday in November. Please contact Wanda Veer at wandaveer47@gmail.com if you can help by (a) making a cake or (b) helping to serve the cakes. Also, if you have small paper dessert plates or plastic forks hiding in your house, I would be happy to take them off your hands!

Office Hours: Regular office hours are Monday to Thursday 8:30-3:30, Fridays 8:30-12:30.

Staff Meetings: Please note that every **Monday from 10 am to 11 am** we have our weekly staff meeting. We would very much appreciate your understanding during this hour, and look forward to touching base with you before or after the staff meeting.

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.

Please Note: We do Livestream most Worship Services. Here is the link with info: https://youtu.be/wel_ZSaZpdU.

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Community Time After Each Service

Sunday, November 4

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Cantata Practice
11:30 am Lunch & Learn

Monday, November 5

9:30 am AM Fitness
1:00 pm Bridge
2:00 pm Cantata Practice
7:00 pm Orchestra
7:00 pm Cantata Practice

Tuesday, November 6

1:00 pm Strummers
4:15 pm Karate
6:30 pm Brownies
6:30 pm Pathfinders
7:00 pm Healing Touch

Wednesday, November 7

9:30 am AM Fitness
10:00 am Mandarin Ladies Group
1:00 pm Open Art Studio
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting
6:15 pm Sparks/Brownies
7:00 pm Youth Choir
7:00 pm Cool Choir

Thursday, November 8

9:00 am Quilting for Others
4:15 pm Karate
6:00 pm Strummers
6:00 pm Children's Choir
7:15 pm Adult Choir

Friday, November 9

9:30 am AM Fitness
10:30 am Sportball
6:30 pm Youth Group
7:00 pm Sewing Group

Check the digital sign in the Narthex for location of activities.

Today's Service

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

Worship Services

November 4: **Commanded to Love**
November 11: **Remembrance Sunday**
November 18: **Intergenerational Sunday**
November 25: **Healing Community**
December 2: **Advent 1**
December 9: **Advent 2**
December 16: **Advent 3—Children's Musical**
December 23 **Advent 4**



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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