



**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, May 5, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: **The Greatest Showman**  
Worship Series

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

**Prelude:** *Hymn Sing*

**Welcome** to our Livestream Worship Service

**Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 & Region 3 Land**

**Greeting One Another & Announcements**

**Christ Candle Lighting**

**Introit:** *Come All You People* (2x) **MV#2**

**Call to Worship**

**Ministry of Music:** *The Orchestra - Selections from The Greatest Showman; arr. by Paul Murtha*

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn:** *Come In, Come In and Sit Down*  
**VU#395**

**Scripture:** *Acts 2:14-17*

**Ministry of Music:** *The Children's Choir - "A Million Dreams" by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul*

**Children's Time**

**Message:** *"Dream Dreams"*

**Hymn:** *I Am the Dream* **MV#106**

**Minute for Mission:** *"A Place of Worship, a Place of Hope"*

**Invitation to Open Hands**

**Opportunity to Open Hands**

**Ministry of Music:** *The Orchestra - "Sing a Song" by Joe Raposo; arr. by Dick Worton*

**Offertory:** *Grateful (Chorus Only)* **MV#182**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Call to Prayer:** *Spirit of the Living God (vv.2)*  
**VU#376**

**Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus**

**Hymn:** *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* **VU#375**

**Commissioning**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Cake Walk:** Mother's Day; bake a cake, win a cake, or both! On **May 12** the Youth group will be running a cake walk after the service to raise funds for the Skipping Stone Foundation. This foundation empowers and supports transgender and diverse youth and their families, and all proceeds from the cake walk will be donated to them. We invite you to join us in the Mountainview Hall after the service on May 12 and participate in the cake walk - hopefully you'll get lucky and win a tasty treat to take home! And if you need something last-minute for Mother's Day, we've got you covered. If you would like to contribute a cake to the cake walk, please bring it to the church before or on May 12! If you bring a cake to the church before the 12th, please label it so we know what event it is for!

**April Birthday Sunday:** Thank you to our star bakers, who braved the cold and snow to deliver delicious birthday cakes... Kate Power, Pat Shier, and Doug Whitnack. Thanks also to Nicola Whitnack for helping serve. **May birthday Sunday** will be **May 26**. Wanda Veer

**Hymn Sing 9:45:** Come early to Church on **May 5** and enjoy singing some hymns prior to the service. If you have a favourite you would like to sing, come prepared to suggest it!

**Call for Auction Items:** St. Thomas is going to be holding a silent auction at our spring BBQ (June 9). We are looking for items large and small. **All items will be collected June 2.** All proceeds will go towards general church operating. Kari Orosz and Erin MacLean-Berko are organizing the auction; please email if you wish to donate - erinmacberko@gmail.com OR miss.kari.griffith@gmail.com. All items must be NEW (ie: gift cards, wine, art, sports tickets, baby items, etc.) Thank you for your support!

**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 initiative! The last chance to donate is June 2!

**Primetimers:** Mark your calendar for Tues. May 28, at 11 am. We will be holding a BBQ/picnic at Bowness Park. We will be serving hot dogs, salads, dessert, and water. To defray costs, we will be asking for a donation at the event. If you have any suitable fun games, bring them! In the event of rain, we will meet in the Mountainview Hall at St. Thomas. Please see the poster in the Narthex and sign up to attend. Jan and Keith Campbell.

**Yard Clean-up:** The annual spring yard clean-up is scheduled for **Saturday, May 4 at 9 am with May 11** as our backup date if the weather is poor. Everyone is invited to come out for a couple of hours with their rakes and garden gloves to enjoy the spring air, good fellowship, and a little light exercise!

**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 Fri. **May 10** at 6:30 pm. 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, **May 12** 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.

**Please Note:** The EDNS preschool will have a bin to **collect used markers**, sharpies, and dry erase markers. They will then take them to be recycled. We have been invited to bring our used markers in and add them to their bin.

**Hey, all you people, come and join** our **AM Fitness and Fun** group. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings in the Mountainview Hall from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Give it a try!

**St. Thomas Drumming Circle** will continue to be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from now until June. To register please email Daryl at [dfenty@telus.net](mailto:dfenty@telus.net), or call or email the church office. Registration is limited to 30 people.

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

**Healing Touch** will be offered in the Sanctuary by appointment on the first Tuesday evening (7 pm and 8 pm) of each month. May 7 is the last Healing Touch session until fall. Please call or email the office, or email Daryl at [dfenty@telus.net](mailto:dfenty@telus.net) for an appointment. *Healing Touch Level 1 offered June 8-9; contact Linda Martin at 403-601-0529 and June 22-23; contact Betty Minifie at 403-474-7399.*

**Quilting for Others:** Join us to make compassion quilts for charity and congregants. No experience necessary. For more information or to donate items, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or [hopeco7@gmail.com](mailto:hopeco7@gmail.com).

**Avenue 15 dinners.** Please join us on Sunday, **June 9** to help make dinner for the homeless youth at Avenue 15. It takes approximately three hours to prepare and eat the meal and staying to eat is optional. Any donations of toiletries, feminine hygiene products, condoms, stuffed animals, and gently used, clean clothing is much appreciated. Toiletries must be unused. For more information – or to donate your items – contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or [hopeco7@gmail.com](mailto:hopeco7@gmail.com).

**Veteran's Association Food Bank:** Please remember the Food Bank when you are shopping this week. Their needs are cookies and crackers, small Jello servings and Jello puddings, sardines and oysters, as well as little cans of ham and turkey for making sandwiches. Sauces for the summer such as BBQ sauce (not pasta sauce) would also be appreciated. Thank you!

**Garage Sale:** It's that time of year again! Please start collecting your gently used items (a good excuse for spring cleaning?!?) to donate to the St. Thomas garage sale. The sale will be **held May 25 from 9 am-2 pm**, with set-up the afternoon of **May 24**. Maxine Mendritzki and Brenda Roberts. **Items we will NOT accept:** Furniture, car seats or infant furniture, weapons, hazardous waste, construction materials, large appliances, stereo consoles, flammable products, food, carpets, newspapers, encyclopedias, glass jars, swing sets, TVs, computer monitors, mattresses, waterbeds, auto parts.

**Leadership Opportunities:** Executive Council is seeking a dynamic church leader to take on the Chair position. For further information, contact Linda Miller, [ljmiller7@shaw.ca](mailto:ljmiller7@shaw.ca) or 403 383-9045. In addition, we have three teams needing help: Affirming Group, Faith Formation, and Finance. Please contact Tracy or Justin if any of these opportunities call to you.

**Summer Camp at St. Thomas July 22-26:** **Camp Caravan** is a summer day-camp program for children in preschool to grade 6 sponsored by St. Andrew's Regional Ministries. It promises to be a fun-filled week of activities that help children learn about the Bible stories and God's power and love at work in the world. It runs from 9 am – 4 pm and costs \$125/child (financial assistance is available). See <https://andychurch.org/campcaravan/> or call 403-259-4080 for further details.

**Camp Kasota West:** Camp Kasota West is a United Church camp on Sylvan Lake near Red Deer. Please see the newsletter for more information.

**Naramata Centre:** Naramata Centre is a conference and retreat centre of the United Church of Canada. See <https://www.naramatacentresociety.org/> for program descriptions, accommodation descriptions, and to register. Registration is ongoing.

**Right Relations Circle at Hillhurst United:** The Right Relations Circle of Hillhurst United Church meets regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All are welcome. For more info contact: [right.relations@hillhurstunited.com](mailto:right.relations@hillhurstunited.com).

**Red Dress Day**, a day to remember and honour **Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, is on May 5**. Red Dress Day Events being held this year: May 4 Red Dress Workshop - Learn to sew traditional red dresses at McDougall United, 2-4 pm; May 4 Film: Highway of Tears at Hillhurst United, 6-9 pm; May 5 Red Dress Day Memorial Exhibits at Hillhurst and McDougall during Sunday services; May 5 Film: River of Silence at McDougall, 6-9 pm.

**Observer:** The United Church Observer magazine has been renamed “Broadview”. The magazine will increase in length by 16 pages per issue. The frequency of publication will be reduced from 11 to ten issues per year. The cost, as part of the church group, will remain at \$25 per year. Also, the magazine will soon be available on newsstands across Canada. Enjoy. Jan Campbell

**Wanted: Volunteer Kitchen Supervisor**— Come on board to help keep the kitchen areas of St. Thomas clean and tidy. You sign on for a month and periodically check on tidiness of fridges, freezers, cupboards, and labeling of goods left in same. (Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex, or read the article in the summer newsletter (out in June), for complete review of this helpful position.) Contact Lori if interested or for more info. leweller@shaw.ca or 403-239-1705.

**Interfaith Opportunity with our Muslim Siblings:** The St. Thomas United Church family has been invited to 'break the fast' with the St. Thomas Muslim family! This is a HUGE honour and in light of the recent shootings and ongoing Islamophobia, this is a perfect opportunity for us to live out our Open Hands, Open Hearts, and Open Minds. Supper will be between **9:30 pm and 10:00 pm on May 31**. Please sign up in the Narthex so they know how much food to make for us. Yes, it's late, but as you know, during Ramadan, Muslims don't eat during daylight hours, so breaking the fast happens at sunset. All are welcome and this is a family-friendly event (despite the late hour).

**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.

**“Building Sacred Bridges”**: An interfaith musical experience. Inspiring works by Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and Christian participants including a Gospel Choir and an interfaith children’s choir called “All of God’s Children”. No charge, but donations accepted for the Interfaith Habitat for Humanity project. At the event we will be celebrating the conclusion of this project’s goal of raising \$1M to help families buy their first home. **May 5**, 7 pm at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1325 Glenmore Trail SW. Reserve tickets at [www.habitatsouthernab.ca/bsb](http://www.habitatsouthernab.ca/bsb).

**Protestant Communion Service at Bethany**: How would you like to help out with the mini church service held once a month at Bethany Calgary, the long-term care facility (916 – 18A Street NW), just south of North Hill Shopping Centre? This is a rewarding experience and only takes 1.5 – 2 hours of your time once a month. There is lots of free street parking. As a volunteer, you could porter the residents from their rooms to the chapel and then help them hold hymnbooks, etc., or you could help with the service by reading scripture or prayers prepared by the minister and/or by serving communion. The residents greatly value the church service and would hate to lose it due to a lack of volunteers. For more information speak to Loree Irving at 403-286-6308, or call Bethany at 403-284-6000 or their Pastoral Care Office at 403-284-6004.

**Nursery and Sunday School Volunteers** are needed. If you can help, please contact Erin MacLean-Berko at [erinmacberko@gmail.com](mailto:erinmacberko@gmail.com).

**Twitter**: We now have a new way to stay engaged with the goings-on at St. Thomas. Come and say hi. Go to [https://twitter.com/st\\_thomas\\_yc](https://twitter.com/st_thomas_yc).

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

**Please Note**: We Livestream most Worship Services. Please go to <https://livestream.com/StThomasUnited> to watch them online.

*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, May 5

10:00 am Worship  
11:30 am Stewardship Meeting

### Monday, May 6

9:30 am AM Fitness  
1:00 pm Bridge  
5:30 pm Worship Comm. Meeting  
7:00 pm M&O Comm. Meeting  
7:00 pm Orchestra

### Tuesday, May 7

9:00 am Quilting  
1:00 pm Strummers  
4:15 pm Karate  
6:30 pm Pathfinders/Brownies  
7:00 pm Healing Touch

### Wednesday, May 8

9:30 am AM Fitness  
1:00 pm Open Art Studio  
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitters  
6:15 pm Sparks/Brownies  
7:00 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Cool Choir  
7:00 pm Wed. Night Book Club

### Thursday, May 9

9:00 am Quilting for Others  
11:30 pm Marathon Bridge  
4:15 pm Karate  
6:00 pm Strummers  
6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:15 pm Adult Choir

### Friday, May 10

9:30 am AM Fitness  
10:30 am Sportball  
6:30 pm Youth Group  
6:30 pm Jr. Youth Group

**Check the digital sign in the Narthex for location of activities. Please feel free to take a bulletin with you after Worship.**

Today's Service

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

## Worship Services

May 5: *The Greatest Showman* Worship Series  
May 12: *The Greatest Showman* Worship Series  
May 19: *The Greatest Showman* Worship Series  
May 26: *The Greatest Showman* Worship Series



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](http://www.united-church.ca))

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