



Sunday, December 29, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: Hot Seat Sunday

VU = Voices United MV = More Voices

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 Administrator:** Halyna Kinasevych

**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

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

**Acknowledgement of Treaty 7, Métis Region 3 Land**

**Greeting One Another & Announcements**

**Candle Lighting & Silence:**

**Call to Worship**

**Opening Prayer:** *Holy One, as we gather at the fading of one year, we are reminded of the dawning of the next. Be with us as we gather to mark these times with celebration and promise, even in the midst of worries and concerns. Help us to remember you in the midst of each moment that through you and through community we might find your love in our midst. Amen.*

**Opening Hymn:** *Hope is a Star* (V4)

VU #7

**Scripture:** *Luke 2: 22 & 36-40 - Gladys Marshall*

**Ministry of Music:** *Dennis Watson— 'Joseph's Lullaby'* by Heislev & Kavanagh

**Children's Time**

**Message:** *Hot Seat with Tracy & Justin*

**Hymn:** *Once in Royal David's City*

VU #62

**Minute for Mission:** *People in Partnership*

**Invitation to Open Hands**

**Opportunity to Open Hands**

**Offertory Hymn:** *In the Bleak Midwinter* (V4)

VU#55

**Offertory Prayer:** *Holy God of all searching and all blessing, as one year comes to a close and another begins we give you thanks for all that we have and all that we are able to give in return. Bless these gifts that they may be blessing to others. Amen.*

**Call to Prayer:** *A Candle is Burning* (Verse 1)

VU#6

**Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus**

**Hymn:** *Auld Lang Syne*

**Commissioning**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

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

## FUNDRAISING

***Grocery Gift Cards*** for Safeway/Sobey's, Co-op and Superstore are available in \$50 and \$100 denominations. Payment is by cheque to St. Thomas United Church, cash, or e-transfer to [fundraising@stthomasunited.ca](mailto:fundraising@stthomasunited.ca). Cards will be available **Jan. 12 and Feb 2**. Or contact Richard Taylor-Kerr at the above email with your order.

Please note that the **2020 weekly giving envelopes** are available for pick up in the Narthex. Any families who do not have offering envelopes who would like them are asked to add their name to the sign up sheet beside the envelopes.

## UPCOMING

***Junior Youth Sunday Morning:*** On Sunday, January 19 during the service, there will be a special program geared towards children in grades 4 – 6. It will be lead 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 leaves. Friends are always welcome.

***Junior Youth Group Social Event:*** This fun group is for grades 4-6 preteens. We meet once a month for fun and community building. The children are encouraged to bring friends. Our next social evening is on **Friday, Jan. 10 at 6:30 pm**. All youth attending are requested to fill out registration and waiver form the first time they attend during a school year. Forms are available on the website or at the Church the night of the meeting.

***Broadview (formerly The Observer) Subscription:*** If you are interested in renewing your subscription or, if you would like to order a new subscription, we at St. Thomas order as a group to insure we get the best rate. The annual rate remains at \$25. **DEADLINE is Sunday, Jan. 5th**. Payment options: 1) pass cash or cheque along to Keith or Jan at church. 2) place payment in envelope marked "Broadview, Attn Jan Campbell" into the collection plate on a Sunday. 3) Drop it off to Halyna in the Office 4) E-Transfer to Jan Campbell at [campbell.janice.a@gmail.com](mailto:campbell.janice.a@gmail.com). Please make cheque payable to St. Thomas United Church. Thank you.

## UPCOMING

**Primetimers:** You are all welcome to attend our next “Coffee and a Chat” **Thursday, January 9 at 10:00 am** in the Narthex.

**Hymn Sing:** On Sunday, **January 12**, come early to church (9:50 am) and enjoy singing some hymns prior to the service. If you have a favourite you would like to sing, come prepared to suggest it!

**EX-UCW (aka St. Thomas Babes) Potluck:** We are planning a "Bleak Midwinter" potluck for **Saturday, January 25, 10:00 a.m.** in the Narthex. Bring your dishes and food and great stories. More information to come in the Newsletter and Bulletin. All ladies who like food and visiting each other are welcome to this event. -Wanda Veer

The second-annual **Joint Women's Retreat** with Wild Rose United Church will be held **April 17 - 19, 2020**. Check out the poster in the Foyer with details on cost and how to register. **Deadline for registration is January 31.**

**Family Dance:** Save the date! St Thomas will be holding a family dance on **February 22 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**. **The Turbines** will be providing the music. They sing and play a variety of Classic Pop (Eagles, Fleetwood Mac, Paul Brandt, The Beatles, and much more). There will be the opportunity for some audience participation. Snacks and beverages will be served. Tickets will be on sale following the services in January and February. \$15/adult, \$10/child, \$40/family.

## BEYOND ST. THOMAS

**Annual Twelfth Night Choral Concert:** **Sunday, January 5 at 7:00 pm**. Each year, the NW Calgary United Church choirs get together to sing some of their Christmas anthems for each other and to sing some Christmas carols. Treats are served afterwards. This year, it is being held at Symons Valley United (38 Kincora Rise NW). Goodwill offerings will be accepted and all are welcome.

# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

**Sunday, Dec 29**

10:00 am

Worship

**Monday, Dec 30**

**Tuesday, Dec 31**

Christmas Eve Worship Services

**Wednesday, Jan 1**

Office closed until January 2

**Thursday, Jan 2**

**Friday, Jan 3**

1:00 pm

Al Medinah Islamic Assembly

**Saturday, Jan 4**

**As the office will be closed over the Christmas Break, if you have any urgent questions or concerns, please email Rev. Justin at [justinmcneill@stthomasunited.ca](mailto:justinmcneill@stthomasunited.ca) or call /text 587-736-0022. All non-urgent inquiries will be responded to after Jan. 2.**



## Worship Services

Dec 29: Hot Seat Sunday

Jan 5: Epiphany Sunday

Jan 12: Israel/Palestine with Eden & Matthew

Jan 19: John the Baptist/Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Jan 26: God's Call



Each Sunday we acknowledge that we are on Treaty 7 land, not out of guilt or shame, but in recognition of the land on which we gather. We give thanks for the traditional territories and oral practices that have lived on this land for thousands of years through the Indigenous Nations of the Siksika, Kanai, Piikani, Stoney-Nakota, and Tsuut'ina and all people who make their homes in this, our Treaty 7 region of Alberta, and the Region 3 Métis Nation.



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

Today's Service

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

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