



Sunday, January 5, 2020

10:00 am

Theme: Epiphany 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

Introit: *I Am the Light of the World* (chorus v1, chorus)

VU #87

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer: *Holy God of Christmas promises and a child's new life, we pray today in the hopes that we might still see your love at work in the world. We come searching to find the peace that you promised, to know the joy of Christmas morning isn't over but has only begun. Be with us in our searching and help us to find the light of your child born once more in our very midst. Amen.*

Opening Hymn: *The First Noel*

VU #91

Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-12* **Reader:** *Pauline Watson*

Ministry of Music: *Youth Choir: This Peaceful Night:*

words by Nancy Price and Don Besig, Music by Don Besig
One Single Light: Dave and Jean Perry

Children's Time

Message

Hymn: *A Light is Gleaming*

VU #82

Minute for Mission: *Healthy Babies in Gaza*

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

Offertory Hymn: *What Child is This*

VU#74

Offertory Prayer: *Holy One, with gifts in our hands and searching in our hearts, we come before you with what we are able to offer. Bless these and all things with the knowledge that together we can be enough to reshape the world around us. Together with your presence help us to journey forward into this New Year with renewed vision for your image in our lives. Amen.*

Call to Prayer: *There's a Voice in the Wilderness* (v 1 x 2)

VU#18

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Angels From the Realms of Glory*

VU #36

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

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

CALLED TO SERVE

Avenue 15 Historically, individuals experiencing homelessness in Canada are older, single men. More women, families and youth are experiencing homelessness than in the past. Most young people become homeless as a result of difficulties in their families. Youth homelessness is unique because young people:

- are physically, emotionally, psychologically, spiritually and socially still developing
- enter into homelessness with little or no work experience
- are often forced into leaving school as a result of their homelessness
- experience high levels of criminal victimization, including sexual exploitation; and often enter into homelessness without basic life skills

In Calgary, on any given night, over 300 youth experience homelessness. On average 200 youth per year access Ave 15. St. Thomas hosts a dinner once per month at Avenue 15 Homeless Shelter with 3 or 4 volunteers from the congregation. This allows us to interact with the youth and we have told they very much look forward to our dinners. They have asked staff “when are those church people coming to make dinner again?” Dinners are prepared from 3pm to 6pm. The menu is pre-planned, groceries are pre-purchased and all we need to do is show up and start prepping the meal. We invite you to come out and spend a few hours of your time to help the youth. If you are unable to help make dinner, donations of **new** toothbrushes, toiletries (save those hotel toiletries as they are the perfect size, feminine hygiene products, condoms, make up as well as gently used clothing and stuffed animals. Our next dinners for the first part of 2020 are: **February 9, March 15, April 19, May 24 and June 14**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619.

FUNDRAISING

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

UPCOMING

Decorating Committee: OOPS!! We have a new date for the changeover to our winter theme. As Primetimers are meeting the morning of Thursday Jan. 9, I have rescheduled the changeover to **Tuesday, January 7, 9:30 -11:30 am**. I hope this will work out for those of you who spoke to me on Sunday last, and for the others that will be able to help out Tuesday, you are needed. A couple of fellows would really be of assistance, too, for taking down the trees and moving boxes to storage, etc. Please let me know that you will be there. Thanks, Lori at leweller@shaw.ca or 403-239-1705. – Lori Weller.

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: Junior Youth Group is for grades 4-6 preteens. We meet once a month for fun and community building. Children are encouraged to bring friends. This month's Junior Youth Group social evening is on **Friday, January 10 at 6:30 pm**. All youth attending are requested to fill out registration and waiver forms the first time they attend. Forms are available on the website or at the Church the night of the meeting.

UPCOMING

Primetimers: Greetings everyone. We hope that each of you has enjoyed a happy, peaceful, meaningful Christmas. Our Primetimers' group continues to be active and flourishing.

In October, Northminster United Church once again held a Turkey Dinner. Thirty-six hungry, grateful Primetimers supported this lovely event and....feasted! (it seems to be a recurring theme with this group!). In November, we held a "Coffee and a Chat" at St. Thomas. In conjunction with that, all Primetimers were encouraged to partake in a Book Exchange. It went well. On December 5th, fifty-nine of us gathered at Winston Golf Club for our Annual Christmas Luncheon. It was beautiful. Thank you to the Strummers who were able to attend and share their gift of music: Ron French, John Robertson, Terry Brotherson. George Zirosso, John and Sandra Burgess, Lynn McCrea and Ted Glenn. It was a wonderful touch to our event.



Coffee Fellowship

2020 already!! And what is next? We are planning a "Coffee and a Chat" for 10:00 am., Thursday, January 9th. You are invited to come, visit, laugh and eat some snacks! (or commiserate over the fact that you ate too many of them over the Christmas season!). In February, we are also hoping to attend the Morpheus Theatre production of "The Graduate". Please watch for details in upcoming bulletins and on the poster in the Narthex.

We wish each of you a happy 2020, a year filled with friendship, hope, love, peace and joy! - Jan and Keith Campbell.

UPCOMING

Broadview (formerly The Observer) Subscription: If you are interested in renewing your subscription to this magazine, 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 \$25.00. Please make your cheque payable to St. Thomas United Church or E-Transfer to Jan Campbell at campbell.janice.a@gmail.com.

DEADLINE to subscribe or renew is this Sunday, January 5th.

Note: 1) You can get your cash or cheques to Keith or Jan in person at church. 2) You can put it in an envelop marked “Broadview, Attention Jan Campbell” and place that in the collection plate on a Sunday. 3) You can deliver it to Halyna in the Office, marked “Broadview, att: Jan Campbell”. Thank you for your support of Broadview. If you no longer wish to receive it, please let me know and I will remove your name from the list.” - Jan Campbell.

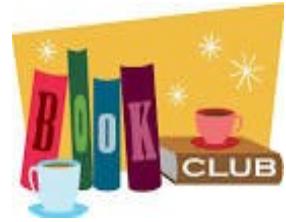


UPCOMING

Book Club:

January 8th - *The Stone Carvers* by Jane Urquhart

February 12th - *Rockbound* by Frank Parker Day



Hymn Sing: On **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 am** 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

Family Dance: Save the date! St Thomas will be holding a family dance on **February 22 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm**. **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.

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 is January 31, 2020.**

Enneagram Workshop: Saturday, January 25th, 1:00 to 4:30 pm at St. David's United Church, 3303 Capitol Hill Crescent NW. Registration is \$30 per person. Please call 403-617-2296 or email marty@martyheeg.com. The Enneagram is a personality model that describes 9 distinct patterns of thinking, feeling and acting that arise from our deep, often unconscious, motivations and world views. The awareness created by this powerful system can significantly help you grow in many areas including family and marital relationships, workplace/leadership effectiveness, stress reduction, conflict resolution and 12 step recovery. This workshop will focus on helping you in 3 domains: Self-Awareness; Awareness of Others; Personal Growth.

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_ycy.

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

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 contacting the office at (403)241-0366 or office@stthomasunited.ca.

Note: 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

Sunday, Jan 5

10:00 am Worship
6:30 pm 12 Step Group

Monday, Jan 6

9:30 am AM Fitness
1:00 PM Bridge
5:30 pm Worship Committee
7:00 pm Orchestra

Tuesday, Jan 7

9:00 am Tuesday's Grace Quilters
1:00 pm Strummers
4:15 pm Karate
6:15 pm Girl Guides

Wednesday, Jan 8

9:00 am Hospitality Team
9:30 am AM Fitness
10:00 am Maple Leaf Brass
1:00 pm Open Art Studio
6:00 pm Sparks/Brownies
7:00 pm Book Club
7:00 pm Youth Choir

Thursday, Jan 9

9:00 am Quilting for Others
10:00 am Primetimers Coffee
4:15 pm Karate
5:30 pm Children's Choir
6:00 pm Strummers
6:15 pm Pathfinders
7:15 pm Adult Choir

Friday, Jan 10

9:30 am AM Fitness
1:00 pm Al Medinah Islamic Assembly
6:15 pm Youth Group

Saturday, Jan 11

8:30 am Karate
9:00 am Chinese School
7:00 am Affirming Group

For a detailed and most up-to-date calendar, please check out our website at: stthomasunited.ca/what-we-do/calendar/

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

Worship Services:

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
Feb 2: Joy of Song Sunday



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**

Today's Service

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

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