

**Offering Invitation:** The Scriptures today speak of generosity and the risk it involves, as well as God's faithfulness to generous actions. In this season of Remembrance, the risk and generosity of others is often on our minds. Let their legacy inspire us to risk generous gifts as we present our offering.

**Offertory Hymn:** VU 537 v1 **God of all good, our gifts we bring to you, use them your holy purpose to fulfil; tokens of love and pledges brought anew that our whole life is offered to your will.** (Tune 426)

### **Offering Prayer**

Receive our gifts this day, O God, and bless them with your love and power. Use them in the work for justice and peace to prevail. Bless all who take a stand against injustice, here and everywhere, in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

### **Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn: VU 333 Love Divine, All Loves excelling**

### **To Depart in Faith** **Commissioning and Benediction**

Jesus said, Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called children of God.

Go as God's children, to bring peace into the lives you encounter this week.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, That you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit And the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

**Closing MV 224 May the God of peace and of all good, may the God of peace and of all good be always with you. Amen. May God's peace be with you. Amen.**

Scripture readings for November 17 2024

1 Samuel 1:4-20. 1 Samuel 2:1-10. Hebrews 10:11-14,19-25. Mark 13:1-8

## **Meridian Pastoral Charge**

*November 10, 2024*

### **Avonlea United Church, Domain MB**

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Welcome and Announcements.

### **Acknowledging the Territory**

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have lived on and cared for this land, Manitoba, a name from Cree meaning: 'The Place of the Great Spirit; in the country we call Canada—a name from Huron meaning 'Village.' **As a community of faith on Treaty 1 Territory, we seek right relations with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples, to learn from each other, to live on this land as brothers and sisters, with respect and gratitude for all creation and The Creator.**

**Introit** VU 374 v1 Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are free: clear the chaos and the clutter clear our eyes that we can see, all the things that really matter, be at peace and simple be.

### **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Response: And also with you.**

### **Call to Worship**

Can you hear it...it is the silence that holds all our stories, the hurt for which there are no words, the pain that cannot be expressed from war

**...it is the silence that shares the ache of the past and knows the deep cost of conflict that always costs too much yet there always seems more to give**

...it is the silence of a God who has no words left, for a love that has nothing left to give, yet will give even that.

May we gather in the clutch of such a silence  
**For it is in this silence and no other we hold together  
the perplexing truth of poppy fields and our honest turmoil  
of emotion. Here we gather in remembrance**

### **Christ Candle**

Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' (John 20:19-21). From death and darkness Jesus brings life and light. May this candle symbolize the light and life of Jesus ablaze in our hearts.

### **HYMN: MV 1 Let us Build a House**

#### **Prayer of Approach**

God of justice and peace,  
We gather at this solemn time of year,  
aware of the costliness of human history.  
In the face of hostility between nations and neighbours,  
you have come to us in Jesus Christ,  
carrying no sword, calling us to serve as peace makers.  
In this time of worship, renew in us the hope  
that you will turn swords into ploughshares ,  
and lead the world you love away from making war for pride or  
profit. By the power of your Spirit, renew your promise of peace  
with justice for all your peoples. May it be so.

#### **Prayer of Confession**

A God of justice and mercy,  
we confess that the world around us is in a mess.  
Nations turn disputes over territory into acts of aggression.  
Old enemies stir up conflict with their rivals.  
Threats of violence keep us all on edge.  
We confess we have not learned from past conflicts

**what leads to peace with justice among nations and  
neighbours. Forgive us, and lead us in a better way.**

**Response:** MV 95 How deep the peace, the confidence of  
those whose wrongs are forgiven. How deep the peace the  
confidence of those whose hearts are healed.

#### **Words of Assurance**

Jesus said, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you.  
Not as the world gives do I give to you. Friends, through God's  
mercy, our sin is forgiven. May the peace of our Lord Jesus  
Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**Response:** (tune 232) Sing with all the saints in glory,  
sing the resurrection song! Death and sorrow, earth's  
dark story, to the former days belong. All around the  
clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall  
cease; in God's likeness we, awaking, know the  
everlasting peace.

### **Story Time**

#### **HYMN: VU 372 Though I may Speak**

#### **First Scripture Reading Ruth 1:1-18**

This is the story of God's people. **All: Thanks be to God.**

#### **Responsive Reading *Psalm 127 VU 851***

#### **Gospel *Mark 12:38-44***

This is the story of Jesus. **All: Thanks be to God.**

#### **To Respond to the Word of God** **Reflection**

#### **HYMN: VU 806 O God Our Help in Ages Past**

#### **Minute for Mission**