

Offering Prayer: Loving God, we bring you our gifts, grateful that we have something to share, and glad to be part of a network of mission and mercy which circles the earth. Bless the ministries supported by Presbyterians Sharing as well as the mission of our congregation. Use our gifts to multiply their impact in the world you love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 460 All Who Hunger

To Depart in Faith

Commissioning and Benediction

Like autumn leaves rustling on the ground in rainbow colours of promise, may we go out to share the promises of God. May God bless what we offer to nourish life in the world; what we do to bring sustenance, joy, and delight; and what we model to transform people's giving into a habit of abundant sharing in Jesus' name. Amen.

Closing VU 242 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us onto the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night; till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished as forward we travel from light into light.

Scripture readings for October 5 2025

Lamentations 1:1-5 Psalm 137. 2 Timothy 1:1-14. Luke 17:5-10

Aging Well, Living Well Event

RM of Macdonald, Oak Bluff Rec Centre

Friday October 3 2025 9:30am-3pm. Lunch, door prizes, 50/50

Tickets \$15. Contact Nancy Langlois

Meridian Pastoral Charge

September 28, 2025

Sanford United Church, Sanford MB

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Welcome and Announcements.

Acknowledgement

We look to the Crest of the United Church of Canada to be reminded of our identity and mission:

UT OMNES UNUM SINT, from Latin meaning '*that all may be one*;' out call to be united and uniting.

AKWE NIA'TETEWA:NEREN, from Mohawk meaning, "all my relations;" our call to be united and uniting with the whole human family and to live with respect in and for all Creation. **Holy God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, You have given us all the gifts needed so that our whole family - all our relations in Creation - may live and flourish. Help us to recognize and foster these gifts within ourselves and one another.**

Introit VU 293 We praise you, Creator, in earth, sea, and sky: our Ruler, our Maker, our Sovereign most high. Wach new generation lifts voices in praise; how good yor creation, how gracious your ways!

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Call to Worship

How did it happen? How did we come to believe in scarcity? In "not enough to go around;"

In "you gotta look after yourself"?

How did we miss the plenty bursting out around us?

We are surrounded by beauty and life, joy and laughter, sharing and love.

Let us open our eyes to the plenty we enjoy, the plenty we can share, and all the plentiful goodness in our world.

Come let us worship.

Christ Candle

God, Protector of the widow, the orphan and the stranger –
in a world where many know despair, you raised your Son Jesus
to give hope for humanity and renewal to the earth.
By the light of your wisdom and love, continue to strengthen and
unify your Church in its mission to share the hope of the new life you
offer.

HYMN: Sing a New Church (insert) tune VU 559

Prayer of Approach

Creating God,
beauty and harmony mark your creation.
As the seasons change,
we see you are still at work in the world,
transforming hearts and situations.
We praise you for all you do to repair injustice,
to bring peace to places of war,
working for goodness to prevail in all nations.
You offer us new possibilities day by day,
and so we place our trust in your redeeming power.
Renew our energy for mission this autumn
and open our eyes to new opportunities to reach out in Jesus'
name. Through the power of the Spirit, make us participants in
your work, bringing justice and joy into the world you love.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God,
you open your heart to those in need, and to your aching
creation. We confess we often turn away so that we do not have
to see pain, suffering, or injustice, right before our eyes. We
don't like to feel uncomfortable or pressed into service. Forgive
us, and give us courage to love others as you love us and reach
out with the care we have witnessed in Jesus. Amen.

Response: MV 96 And when you call for me, I have already
answered. And when you call for me, I am already there.

Words of Assurance

The prophet Micah declared that God requires of us three things: to
do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. To all who
repent, who act for justice and seek to serve God and neighbour in
kindness, God offers forgiveness and peace. The peace of our Lord
Jesus Christ be with you all.

Response: MV 136 v5 Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve
you well and offer praise. When all are joined as one, we'll be
your able, strong community. *(tune VU 372)*

Story Time

Hymn: VU 703 In the Bulb there is a flower

First Scripture Reading Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
This is the story of God's people. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 91 VU 807

Gospel Luke 16:19-31
This is the Good News of Jesus Christ!
All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

HYMN: VU 684 Make me a Channel of your Peace

Minute for Mission

Offering Invitation: Prophets and parables remind us again and
again to share what we have with those living on the margins,
those standing outside the gate. Through this offering, your
gifts will have worldwide impact. Let us bless God with our
offering.

Offertory Hymn: VU 538 **For the gift of creation, the gift of your**
love, and the gift of the Spirit by which we live, we thank you and
give you the fruit of our hands. May your grace be proclaimed by
the gifts that we give.