

## Prayers of the People

### The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn:** 166 O God Our Help in Ages Past

### To Depart in Faith

**Commissioning and Benediction** Keep your eyes open as you walk in God's world, alert for occasions to share God's love. And may the God who made us, The Christ who mends us, And the Spirit who gives us life walk with you each and every day. Amen

**Closing: O Canada! Where pines and maples grow, great prairies spread and lordly rivers flow. How dear to us thy broad domain, From East to Western Sea! Thou land of hope for all who toil! Thou True North strong and free! God keep our land glorious and free! O Canada we stand on guard for thee! O Canada we stand on guard for thee!**

#### ***Avonlea United:***

*Summer Break July through August 2*

**Next Service: Sunday August 9 at 9:30am**

August 9<sup>th</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup> Services at 9:30am

Starting Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup>: Services at 11am for the rest of 2026

#### ***Sanford United:***

*Summer Break July through August.*

**Next Service: Sunday September 13 at 9:30am.**

Services at 9:30am throughout 2026

#### ***Starbuck United:***

*Summer Break July through August.*

**Next Service: Sunday September 13 11:30am**

Services will be every second Sunday thereafter at 11:30am

## Meridian Pastoral Charge

June 28, 2026

### Union Point Service

204-736-2978(office) [www.meridian-pastoral-charge.ca](http://www.meridian-pastoral-charge.ca)

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Welcome and Announcements

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

#### **Acknowledging the Territory**

We recognize that we share this land with the first inhabitants of this area, the First Nations of Treaty 1 and the Red River Métis, with whom we seek to live in harmony on this land and all of its inhabitants. **We are all treaty people.**

**Introit:** 59 Jesus Loves Me v 1

#### **Call to Worship**

Christ says, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me."

**God you welcome us into your loving presence and offer us grace.**

A cup of cold water.

**God, in our need you give gifts to us.**

**In many hidden ways you bless us.**

A cup of cold water given

**In our thirst for your grace, refresh us once again.**

A cup of cold water, given in the name of a disciple.

**We drink of your grace; we rest in your presence;**

**we worship you in humble gratitude.**

**Make of us your faithful disciples, in the name and the Spirit of**

**Christ. Amen.**

**Christ Candle** We light this candle as a symbol of our intention to be open and attentive to God's presence and guidance during our time of worship.

### **Prayer of Approach**

Creator God, like the ancestors of our faith, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, we are everyday people trying our best to live our lives in faithful response to your call.

**Out of the ordinary, you call us to do what seems extraordinary.**

We read the stories of Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob, Leah, and Rachel, and we shake our heads at the choices and decisions they made.

**And yet, they are not so very different from us.**

Isaac and Rebekah yearned for children. When Jacob and Esau arrived, two very different children emerged from the same womb, each with his own personality and way of interacting in the world.

**Soon, division occurred in the household, parent to parent, son to son, tales of trickery and treachery.**

God of our ancestors, receive our prayers and be with us

**as we create our own history, forgive us when we do things that deceive and divide, and help us engage in building bridges and restoring relationships.**

God of today, **forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Amen.**

**HYMN:** 156 Open My Eyes

### **Words of Assurance**

There is good news in the midst of the turmoil in our lives: As ordinary people, we are inspired and empowered to do what is extraordinary.

We are indeed a blessed and forgiven people, **thanks be to God!**

**Reading:** Genesis 22:1-14

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

### **Responsive Reading:**

*Psalm 13 —A paraphrase*

God, have you forgotten me forever?

**Do I even matter to you?**

**Why are you so hard to find?**

How long will I argue with myself about you,  
this dark pit in my heart all day long?

**How long will this dark adversary  
loom over me?**

Give me an answer, God—any answer.

Let there be light in my eyes,  
not this sleep, this death.

**I can hear my adversary now: " I win."**

**I can see them gloat over my lifeless soul.**

But I trust your kindness like the earth itself.

You rescue me, and I rejoice.

**I will sing to you, Beloved,**

**because you always so lovingly pick me up.**

**Reading:** Matthew 10:40-42

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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

#### **Reflection**

**Hymn:** 172 Love Divine v 1-3

#### **Minute for Mission**

**Offertory Invitation** Jesus teaches that the gift of a simple cup of water is a gift worthy of his disciples. Friends, whatever we give to God this day can bless the world in Jesus' name. So, give with confidence that your gift matters.

**Offertory Prayer** **Generous God, what we return to you today has first come to us from you. Bless what we offer so that those in need may taste your abundance which we know already in Christ, our Living Lord. Amen.**