

Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 649 Walk With Me

To Depart in Faith

Commissioning and Benediction The Apostle Paul teaches that we owe no one anything but to love one another. So go with God's love in your hearts to share that love with everyone you meet. And may God, the Source of Love, Christ, the Face of Love in action, and the Spirit, the transforming power of love, go with you to bless you and move through you to heal and bless God's world.

VU424 May the God of hope go with us everyday, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all, working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Scripture readings for September 13 2026

Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 Romans 14-1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday School classes will resume September 13. We welcome back our teachers and SS children. We will have classes for ages 4 thru grade 8. Older students are encouraged to remain upstairs for the service. There will be a re-covenanting service on September 20.

Celebration of Worldwide Communion October 4th.

Thanksgiving Sunday service October 11th. (Please help us decorate the sanctuary on Saturday the 10th @ 9:30)

And now as we set out on the fall church year, please join us in our fellowship. Coffee time will resume and we ask you to sign the sheet for a Sunday when you can supply "the goods." Together is a great word. See you at church

Starting on September 6th our services will now be at 11 AM for the balance of this church year.

Meridian Pastoral Charge

September 6 2026

Avonlea United Church, Domain MB

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Welcome and Announcements

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Acknowledging the Territory

Here at Avonlea United, 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: *MV 156 Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin', walk with the Spirit throughout the long day. Work and hope for the new life a-born'in, listen to the Spirit to show you the way.*

Call to Worship

God of love, we come not by our initiative but by your invitation.

Together we worship, together we grow.

Loving Christ, in your grace you gather us into your Body.

Together we worship, together we grow.

Holy Spirit, you make us one with you, one with Christ, and one in ministry to the world.

Together we worship, together we grow.

Together we praise you in harmony. Alleluia!

Christ Candle God of all Creation, you gather us here in your Spirit as the Body of Christ. You call us to grow in love and faith. Open our ears to hear your Word. Open our eyes to see the path you call us to. Open our hearts to be changed and to grow, to blossom and to bear fruit, in the name of Christ. Speak, Holy One, for we are listening.

Prayer of Approach God of grace and glory, your creative power is beyond imagining, your love is wider than the whole universe, your mercy is beyond the highest heavens, your wisdom is deeper than the seas. Maker of all things, you became one of us in Jesus Christ, walking the roads we take each day, experiencing the joys and frustrations of life in your world, and preaching your reign in word and action. Through your Spirit, you are present with us in every time and place to comfort and challenge us. For all that you have been, are and will be, we worship you as Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and always.

HYMN: MV 7 Come Touch our Hearts

Prayer of Confession

We come from the Earth, shaped from soil, breathing borrowed breath. We come in the name of the Word through whom all things were made, in whom all things hold together.

We come in this Season of harvest and heat, of stubborn hope and stubborn grief.

Creator God – You who breathed life into the dust, who named every creature before we named a single one, who set the stars singing and the seas roaring with praise – gather us now.

Gather us into right relationship: with You, with one another, with the Earth that is our kin and our home.

After Confession: VU 661v1 O Come to my heart Lord Jesus, teach me to walk in your way. Come to my heart Lord Jesus, come to my heart today. Give me the peace and joy that only you can bring. Come to my heart Lord Jesus, give me a song to sing.

Words of Assurance

Friends – we are forgiven. It's Jesus who says: "Do not fear tomorrow – you're up to your eyes in today!"

And Jesus who says: "You're forgiven, you're free."

Response: VU 218v3 With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With You, Lord, beside

us, Your strong arm will guide us, to You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Story Time

Hymn: VU 333 Love Divine All Loves Excelling

Reading: Romans 13:8-14

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 119 VU 839 Refrain 3

Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

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

To Respond to the Word of God

Reflection

Hymn: VU 595 We Are Pilgrims

Minute for Mission

Offertory Invitation God calls us to show our love through the kindness we offer our neighbours. Our offering will spread the gifts God has given us to neighbours in need in the name of Christ, our Lord.

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.

Offertory Prayer Gracious God, receive these gifts, offered in a spirit of generosity and humility. Bless and use them for the work that you long to do in the world you love, for Jesus' sake. Amen.