



The United Church of Canada  
L'Église Unie du Canada

## St. Andrew's United Church



July 20, 2025.

6<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost

### ***Our Mission Statement:***

*"St. Andrew's United Church is a Christian community of faith that shares Christ's love through worship, fellowship, spiritual growth, and outreach."*

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST



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# Sunday Worship Service

July 20, 2025

**Worship Leader:** Pastor Derrick Carnahan  
**Organist and Choir Director:** Lois McKinnon  
**Greeters:** Faye Wilson & Betty MacDiarmid

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*Stand as you are able.

### Music Prelude:

**\*Introit: MV # 1, "Let Us Build A House" vs. 1**

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live.**

**A place where saints and children  
tell how hearts learn to forgive.**

**Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle – Brenda Hicks**

The embers of a campfire produce a red glow. The sun rising and setting makes a brilliant array of pink and purple and orange shadows. A lighthouse emits a flashing beam of light, warning of danger. Lighting flashes a dazzling streak of light across the sky during a storm. And our Christ candle sends out gleams of soft light, reminding us of Christ's presence in our lives. We light our Christ candle.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, BC

As the candle is lit we sing: VU # 87, "I Am the Light of the World" chorus

**"I am the light of the world!**

**You people come and follow me!"**

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery  
of what you were meant to do and be.**

### **Lighting of the Peace Candle**

### **Welcome**

## **Responsive Call to Worship**

L: Creator God, we praise you!

**All: We thank you, and we worship you.**

L: We gather to listen to your Word, to meditate upon your Word, to be shaped by your Word.

**All: Show us your ways, O God, and teach us your paths**

L: The unfolding of your Word gives light

**All: Alleluia! Your word is a light unto our feet and a lamp unto our path. Alleluia!**

**\*Opening Hymn:** VU # 213, "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

## **Opening Prayer**

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Lord Jesus Christ, you were born one of us to show us God's love for us. You came to teach us God's truth and touch us with God's mercy. We confess we sometimes try to push you away instead of focusing on You. Sometimes we cling to what we think and resist your challenge to open our lives to others. Sometimes we limit our generosity, convinced we can't give any more. Forgive us our sins and grant, O Lord, that what we have said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, amen.

## **Words of Assurance**

### **The Word of God Proclaimed**

### **Prayer for illumination (Unison) – *Pat Boucher***

God of wisdom, by the leading of your Spirit, open our minds to receive new insight from familiar stories. Open our hearts to grasp deeper truth, revealed through the Scriptures, while our focus is on Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

**\*Responsive Psalm 15, Page 736**

**Scripture Reading:** Colossians 1: 15-28

**Ministry of Music:** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

**Gospel:** Luke 10:38-42

**Reflection:** "Choosing to Focus on Jesus"

**We Respond to Gods Word**

**\*Hymn:** VU # 341, "Fairest Lord Jesus"

**Announcements:** *Holly Daley*

**Invitation to the Offering:**

**\*Offering Hymn:** VU #549, "For All Your Goodness, God"

For all your goodness, God,  
We give you thanks.  
Thanks for the food we eat,  
And for the friends we meet;  
For each new day we greet,  
We give you thanks.

**\*Offering Prayer: Unison**

Living, Loving God, Mary chose to focus on Jesus. We bring the gifts we have to offer to you while choosing to focus on Jesus. Bless and multiply them. Show us how they can best serve your purposes in our church and in your world. Amen.

**Praise before Prayer: MV #119, "God Our Protector"**

God our protector, keep us in mind,  
always give strength to your people.  
For if we could be with you one day in time  
it is better than a thousand without you.

**Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** VU # 626, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

**\*Commissioning and Benediction:**

**\*Choral Closing:** MV #221, "I Am Walking the Path of Hope"

I am walking a path of hope,  
I am walking a path of hope,  
I am walking a path of hope,  
lead me home, lead me home,  
I am home.

**Musical Postlude**

## Announcements

### Memorials:

In loving memory of **Marie MacDonald**, a donation to Riverside Cemetery has been received from Betty MacDiarmid.

In loving memory of **Marie MacDonald**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Faye Wilson, Don & Judy Bowman.

### Worship:

**Greeters:** **July 20** – Faye Wilson & Betty MacDiarmid/**July 27** – Judy Donnelly & Marj MacPhee

▪ **Sound System:** **July 20<sup>th</sup>** - Brian Savoy/**July 27** - Don Bowman

▪ **PowerPoint:** **July 20<sup>th</sup>** – Mary Reynolds/**July 27** – Jennifer Walker

- **Offering Collectors:** **July 20** – Helen Jones, Brian & Joan Savoy, Marj MacPhee/**July 27** – Holly Daley, Judy Donnelly, Debbie Stymiest, Cynthia Duplessie

▪ **Offering Counters:** **July 20<sup>th</sup>** – Betty MacDiarmid & Debbie Stymiest/**July 27** – Brian Savoy & Brian Adams

### **3. Weekly Collection:**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Collection on Sunday, July 20 <sup>th</sup>   | \$ 1,105.00        |
| Weekly Par Collection                         | <u>\$ 1,270.00</u> |
| <b>Total for Week of July 20<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>\$ 2,375.00</b> |

### This Week:

- 1) **Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>** – 1:00 p.m. – Fitness Class here at St. Andrew's

### Pastoral Care:

If you need pastoral care, please contact the church office at 506-773-9932, and Karen will arrange it.

### Fundraisers:

**1) Good Used Clothing Sale** will take place on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information will follow. Anyone who has donations to drop off of clothing, linens, purses, books, jewellery may do so during regular business hours. All donations can be placed downstairs behind the bifold doors in the church hall.

**(PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF ON CHURCH STEPS)**

## **Community:**

- 1) **Riverside Cemetery Service** will be held on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the cemetery. People are invited to bring a lawn chair.
- 2) **68<sup>th</sup> Annual Miramichi Folksong Festival**, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> thru to the 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information pick up a pamphlet on the back table by the church office.

## **Sacred Care for Those Who Carry the Weight**

In 2024, a group of 23 Indigenous United Church ministers and spouses from northern Manitoba and Ontario gathered for a much-needed retreat at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre. This time of rest, healing, and renewal was made possible by [your generosity through Mission and Service](#).

For many, it was the first opportunity to gather with others who truly understand the weight they carry. These ministers are often the only ones available to walk with their communities through addiction, suicide, and profound grief. The emotional and spiritual toll is immense.

“The number of youth funerals we do now is overwhelming,” says Rev. Grant Queskekapow, who was ordained in 1987. “When I started in the United Church, we buried a lot of elderly people. But now we bury a lot of youth who die as a result of suicide.”

At the retreat, ministers were offered trauma-informed support, rest, and spiritual care through sharing circles, art therapy, and cultural practices like beading. The space allowed them to grieve, to speak the unspeakable, and to begin to heal.

It was more than a retreat. It was a lifeline.

The impact was clear. Participants returned to their communities with renewed strength and a deep sense of support. Because of this, a second retreat is being planned for September 2025 to once again offer this crucial care.

And the need has only grown.

As wildfires sweep through northern Manitoba, nearly 17,500 people are being evacuated from First Nations communities facing dangerous conditions and blocked escape routes. Once again, our Northern Indigenous ministers are offering strength and leadership, even as they face these threats themselves.

Please hold them in your prayers.

[Your continued support](#) through Mission and Service is essential. You are helping provide healing space for those who carry the grief of entire communities. You are ensuring they do not carry it alone. Thank you.

**We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins in loving memory of Burton & Myrtle Bremner by the Family.**



**Online St. Andrew's United Church**

[www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org](http://www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org)

[www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUnitedChurchMiramichi](https://www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUnitedChurchMiramichi)

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