

*A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are worshipping with us for the first time, or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together. Welcome to worship on this day at:*

## **Strathmore United Church July 2024**

***Praise the LORD, all you nations!  
Extol him, all you peoples!  
For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.  
Praise the LORD!  
Psalm 117***

10: 15  **Hymn sing:**

**Welcome and Announcements:**

**Lighting the Christ Candle:**

**Centering Song:**      *Come and Find the Quiet Centre*      \* VU #374

**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 freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,  
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!**

**Call to Worship:**

**L:** As we gather here today, may the peace of Christ be upon this house of worship.

**P:** **As we come together, may God's grace rest on us as we pray, sing and listen to the message.**

**L:** May our time together ignite in us a desire to go out and share the peace and love of Christ with others.

**P:** **Let us worship God, singing and praising God's wonderful love for all.**

Written by Stephanie Richmond, Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 38; Used with permission

**Hymn:**      \* see insert

**Gathering Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gifts you have given. For life, both new and old. For love of family, of friend and stranger. For Christ alive in our hearts. We ask that you bless our gathering, that our words, our actions, and our love -our lives themselves – might be living reflections of your love. In Christ's name, we ask these things. **Amen.**

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**Story Time for all ages:**

**♪♪ Hymn:** \* see insert

**Reading of Scripture:**

*L: A Word of God that is still speaking,*

*P: Thanks be to God.*

**Message:**

**♪♪ Hymn:** \* see insert

**The Offering Invitation:**

**♪♪ Sung Dedication:** Grant Us, God, the Grace \* VU #540  
**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.**

**Prayer of Dedication:** Giver of Life, today we dedicate this offering to your work in this community and throughout the world. May it find the places desperately in need of love. May it be a beacon of hope for all. Amen.

Written by Jim McKear, Gathering, Pentecost 1; 2024, page 47; Modified; Used with permission

**♪♪ Hymn:** Come Touch Our Hearts – Verses 1-2 \* MV#12  
**Come touch our hearts  
that we may know compassion,  
from failing embers build a blazing fire;  
love strong enough to overturn injustice,  
to seek a world more gracious,  
come touch and bless our hearts.**

**Come touch our souls  
that we may know and love you,  
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;  
create a space for spirit to grow in us,  
let life and beauty fill us,  
come touch and bless our souls.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever, AMEN**

**♪♪ Hymn:      \* see insert**

**Commissioning and Blessing:**

**P: We go to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, with all our strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Amen.**

**L: May the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the joy of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.**

**♪♪ Choral Response:                      God, Take My Hand (Verses 1-2)      \*VU #638**

**God, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;  
direct, protect and feed me from day to day.  
Without your grace and favour I go astray;  
so take my hand, O Saviour, and lead the way.**

**God, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;  
for you, the Rock of Ages, are always near.  
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
for when your hand is guiding, in peace I go.**

**† Passing the Peace of Christ**

*The peace of Christ is with you.... Also with you!*

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the library after the service!*