

ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH  
August 19, 2018



***“DIVINE WISDOM”***  
*Painting by Seshadri Sreenivasan*

Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming and  
Inclusive community  
**WELCOME TO ST. DAVID'S UNITED  
CHURCH**

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**Sunday, August 19, 2018**  
Presiding: Wayne Holst

*We gather as a Christ-infused Community of Faith*

*We welcome all of you to St. David's United. Regardless of your age, stage, gender identity, sexual orientation, or how great or small you feel your faith is, we each bring something of ourselves to this sacred place. God, through us, welcomes each of us to worship.*

*Prior to the service the Creation and Affirming candles were lit to affirm that all humanity and creation must be respected and valued. The Treaty 7/Metis Region 3 candle was lit to show respect for the land and to affirm our continued commitment to live into right relations with our indigenous brothers and sisters.*

**SEEDS OF MEDITATION**

"Wisdom and compassion flow from simplicity and clarity; from having nothing to prove and nothing to defend." ~ Barry Magid

**PRELUDE**                      *Improvisation*

**WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY/GREETING**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

We light the Christ Candle to acknowledge the Christ Wisdom within us. May the Christ be a wise flame before us, a guiding star above us, and a smooth path beneath us.

### **INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

Come all of you to this sacred place  
As we gather in the welcome of God's love,  
As we gather in the joy of our unity in Christ,  
As we gather in the power of the Spirit,  
Let us listen for the voice of God.

### **ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP**

In the calm of this sanctuary  
**let us find sacred space.**  
From the bustle and push of the busy crowd  
let us find sacred space.

Come Wisdom,  
breath of God's power,  
bringer of goodness and love.

**Be with us in this sacred time.**

Come Wisdom,  
stream of God's glory,  
sharer of justice and truth.

**Be with us in these sacred moments.**

Come Wisdom,  
light of God's treasure,  
gifter of friendship and joy.

**Be with us as sacred love and acceptance.**

Come Wisdom,  
meet us in our busy,  
keep us at peace in the moving of life.

**Be with us as sacred embrace.**

### **HYMN** #415

God, We Praise You for the Morning

VU

God, we praise you for the morning;  
hope springs forth with each new day,

new beginning, prayer and promise,  
joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation,  
mountains, seas and prairie land.  
Waking souls find joy and healing  
in your bountiful hand.

God, we praise you for compassion,  
all the loving that you show;  
human touching, tears and laughter,  
help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,  
Comforter and daily friend;  
restless searcher, gentle teacher,  
strength and wisdom you send.

God, we praise you for the Saviour,  
come that we may know your ways.  
In his loving, dying, rising,  
Christ is Lord of our days.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Christ is Lord of our days!

### **GATHERING PRAYER**

When given the opportunity to ask God for anything, Solomon asked for wisdom. "Give me wisdom" is one of the most effective prayers found in the pages of Scripture.

**Loving and Generous God, if we were to receive whatever we wanted, anything at all, nothing too big would be denied, what would we ask for? Would we ask for Wisdom as did Solomon?**

**We gather this morning, conscious that the Spirit of Wisdom moves within each of us as it has moved in all people since the beginning of human life, working in and through whom and what it has to work with. May we be wise in our sharing, ready to listen, open to learning where new insights and knowledge may take us, drawing on wisdom that blesses our hearts with understanding and peace. We pray that our gathering may open us to your Wisdom, so it may speak to and bless our hearts. Amen.**

*...to hear the wisdom of God.*

**READINGS** I Kings 3:3-14 Solomon's Request of God – a wise heart; Ephesians 5:15-20 "Don't be thoughtless; recognize what God wants;" John 6:51-58 Jesus said, "I am the living bread. Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood will have eternal life"

**SOLO** *Jesu, Joy of My Desiring* *J. S. Bach*

**REFLECTION** *"True Wisdom for Living"*

**HYMN** Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom *MV #10*  
(Tune VU #312)

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,  
she who danced, when earth was new.  
Follow closely what she teaches,  
for her words are right and true.  
Wisdom clears the path to justice,  
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,  
crying in the market-place.  
Hear the Word made flesh among us,  
full of glory, truth and grace.

When the word takes root and ripens,  
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;  
nurture all who seek rebirth.  
Spirit-guide and close companion,  
bring to light our sacred worth.  
Free us to become your people,  
holy friends of God and earth.

Words: Ruth Duck Music: Donna Kasbohm

...*To respond*

## **INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY**

*Ave Maria*

*F. Schubert*

## **DEDICATION HYMN**

Tune VU #579

**The church is a people communing together  
seeking new wisdom and eager to live.  
With service and vision, through learning and laughter,  
we touch every heart with these gifts that we give.**

## **CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY SUMMER PRAYERS AND THE JESUS PRAYER**

**HYMN**

The Voice of God

(Tune: VU #625)

(Text: Rev. Peggy McDonagh)

The voice of God I heard to day  
speak to my searching soul;  
come forth into the mystery,  
reach for your sacred goal.  
Be one with self and whole in mind,  
seek wisdom's truth inside;  
use strength of God until you find  
true courage as your guide.

If ever we should dare to risk  
this sacred call to grow,  
may wisdom be our spring of life,  
a steady, bubbling flow.  
If we but cling to freedom's grace  
and trust our heart's true plea,  
our soul will show its radiant face,  
for we'll be whole and free.

. . . *and be blessed.*

### **BENEDICTION**

Live slowly, think slowly, for time is a mystery.  
Never forget that living wisely requires always that you be  
the greatest person you are capable of being.  
Be grateful for the manifold dreams of creation  
and the many ways of the unnumbered peoples.  
Be grateful for life as you live it  
and may a wonderful wisdom of God  
always guide you on the unfolding road.

*Ben Okri, Nigeria* ***A Benediction to an English friend in Africa***

### **SUNG BLESSING**

**Shalom good friends, shalom good friends**  
**Shalom, shalom**  
**Till we meet again, till we meet again,**  
**Shalom, shalom.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Improvisation*

<p><b>GROWING AND DEEPENING OUR LIVES THROUGH WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL NURTURE</b></p>
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August 25 2018

Join us from a Contemplative Worship Experience

***Message from Rev Peggy***

*I am returning to Calgary from Edmonton on Monday leaving the care of my mother to my siblings who will continue to help Mom on her journey toward health. I want to thank Deb Stockdale, Alison Demeter, and Wayne Holst for their kindness and their willingness to cover the services in my absence. It has been a difficult time since my Mother's accident however the understanding of the congregation and staff has been heartwarming and sustaining.*

**WELCOME TO ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH**

We hope that your heart is touched, your faith inspired, and your spiritual life deepened in this gathering time and worship experience. If you are visiting for the first time please know that you are welcome, you are valued, and you enhance this sacred place by your presence.

If you wish to know more about St. David's, please fill in a "Response Card" found at the back of the Sanctuary and place it in the box or the offering plate.

**Thank you for making this a scent free environment.** It is a joy to have you with us today, please be welcomed and embraced. Please join us following worship in the TM room for conversation, coffee/tea and fellowship. Washrooms are opposite the front entrance and in the basement.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the Voices United hymn book, at the back of the church, or from an usher. If you would like to have contribution envelopes, please contact the office. Tax receipts are issued at the end of the year for all identified donations and offerings. If you give through PAR, PAR cards are available from the ushers to be placed on the offering plate as a symbol of your offering given through PAR.

**PRAYER CONCERNS** The prayer chain is committed to praying for you in times of crisis for a period of 30 days. Please contact the office or one of the ministers.

**FLOWERS** enhance our church services each Sunday. Remember loved or joyous occasions all year with donations to the flower fund. Dedications are placed in the worship folder.

If anyone has celebrations or events they wish to have acknowledged in the worship folder or newsletter, please contact the office administrator at the church office at 403 284-2276 or [admin@sduc.ca](mailto:admin@sduc.ca) no later than Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

***PASTORAL CARE*** *If you have any pastoral concerns about yourself or others please contact Peggy McDonagh at the church office. If you know someone who is in long term care, in hospital or needs a visit, please contact the office.*

**We need your help ...** in a congregation the size of St. David's it can be difficult to know who has not been present in worship for some time. If you are aware of someone you have not seen for a while, please contact the office or contact the people and let them know that they are missed. As a congregation, we all must be aware of one another and acknowledge those absent to ensure everyone feels cared for and valued. Let us all do our part to keep connected.

**THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY  
WORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

- Greeters.....August Sacred Service Team
- Ushers .....August Sacred Service Team
- Counters.....Bernie Nemeth & Peter Adams
- Reader.....Eldon Godfrey
- Guest Musician.....Sean Perrin - clarinet

**MINISTRY PERSONNEL**

Peggy McDonagh	Minister, Congregational Operations and Worship	<a href="mailto:peggy@sduc.ca">peggy@sduc.ca</a>	Voice Mail #104
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Chantal Winslow	Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:admin@sduc.ca">admin@sduc.ca</a>	Gen Voice Mail
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Janet Zatka	Accountant	<a href="mailto:accounting@sduc.ca">accounting@sduc.ca</a>	Voice Mail #107
Wally Pelley	Custodian		Gen Voice Mail
Abby Hunter	Nursery		Voice Mail #110
Stephanie Price & Trent Burke	Faith Quest Leader		Voice Mail #110

## ST. DAVID'S WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. Aug 19	10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Refreshments – TM Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
Mon. Aug 20	12:30 pm	Best Beginnings – Robertson Hall
Tues. Aug 21	6:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo Church of Christ – Sanctuary & TM Room
Wed. Aug 22	9:30 am	Qigong – TM Room
Thurs. Aug 23		NO EVENTS
Fri. Aug 24		NO EVENTS
Sat. Aug 25	6:00 pm	True Light Church – Robertson Hall

Sun. Aug 26	10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Refreshments – TM Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
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## **BENEVOLENT PANTRY**

*Over the last few weeks our office has received an influx of requests for assistance from the benevolent pantry. This has depleted our resources and we are once again looking to our congregation to help replenish our pantry.*

*We are looking for donations of easy to eat, nutritious food for our pantry. Items such as:*

- *easy open protein (tuna, chicken etc.),*
- *protein or granola bars,*
- *fruit cups,*
- *apple sauce,*
- *fruit or vegetable juice,*
- *crackers,*
- *nuts, trail mix,*
- *etc.*

*If you are able to help, please drop off donations at the office during business hours, or contact Chantal to make alternate arrangements.*

*We are so grateful for any help you may be able to provide.*