



The United Church of Canada
Prairie Spirit Pastoral Charge
Coaldale United and St. Andrew's UC
Trinity and First United
Worship leader Rev. Ruth Preston Schilk
Reader: Pat Michalson
Music: Cheryl Nelson

February 8, 2026

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Musical Prelude

Announcements

Remembering the Land

Call To Worship: – based on 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10; John 14:26

One: What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived –
– these are what God has prepared for those who love the Lord.

**All: We have come together to love and worship God
who reveals all things to us through the Holy Spirit.**

Opening Prayer:

O Holy One,
We receive your presence in this place and in our hearts.
(SILENCE)

What we know not, **teach us.**

What we see not, **show us.**

What we have not, **give us.**

What we are not, **make us.**

**In thanksgiving we pray,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. AMEN.**

[adapted from *Invocations and Benedictions*, ed. John M. Drescher, (Nashville: Abingdon, 1998), 17]

We Light Our Christ Candle:

One: Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

All: As his disciples, let us shine with Christ's light.

Opening Hymn: VU 575

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Hymn:

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine. I'm gon-na let it shine.

This little light of mine. I'm gon-na let it shine.

This little light of mine. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gon-na let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gon-na let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Let it shine in my hometown. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine in my hometown. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine in my hometown. I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

See the light spread-ing round the world. See all the faces shine.

See the light spread-ing round the world. See all the faces shine.

See the light spread-ing round the world. See all the faces shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayer of Confession – inspired by Matthew 5: 13-16

Lord, you placed us in the world to be its salt.
When we are afraid of committing ourselves,
when we did not want to hear what ‘they’ might say
and our salt dissolves as if in water –
Lord, have mercy.

You placed us in the world to be its light.
When we are afraid of the shadows of poverty,
when we do not want to know ‘difficult’ people
and our light slowly fades away –

Christ, have mercy.

(SILENCE)

**Thank you for placing us in the world,
teaching us to love and to share in life.
Renew us for your ministry,
forgiven through Christ,
and empowered by the Holy Spirit. AMEN.**

adapted from Peggy M De Cuehlo, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>

Words of Assurance - 1 Timothy 4:10

Receive these words of assurance and healing:
**Let us rejoice as a forgiven people, whose hope is set on the living God,
who is the Saviour of all people, especially of those who believe.**

Scripture Readings: Psalm 112:1-10

1 Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

- 3 Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.
- 4 They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.
- 5 It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.
- 6 For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- 8 Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.
- 9 They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honour.
- 10 The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

Matthew 5:13-20 13 Jesus said: “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth

pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

May God bless our understanding of these scriptures.

Message: Salt and Light – Being Different, Making a Difference

Hymn: VU 581

When We Are Living

Minute for Mission: Shared Healing and Cultural Renewal

At Mamawe Ota Askihk, the land is more than a backdrop. It's a sacred space where Indigenous children, youth, and families reconnect with culture, language, and one another.

Hosted by Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre and supported by your Mission and Service gifts, the 2023 summer gathering brought together 31 participants, supported by a team of staff, Knowledge Keepers, and youth leaders. From the first day, participants began building a community grounded in sharing, learning, and ceremony.

Workshops throughout the week included cultural teachings, hands-on skills like soapmaking and meat smoking, and powerful ceremonies, such as sweat lodges led by Knowledge Keeper Melody. Youth helped prepare medicines, served as firekeepers, and took part in every element of the lodge, deepening their understanding of tradition while finding a place of belonging.

Each evening, the group gathered around the sacred fire, where Knowledge Keeper Carla led drum songs and stories. The sound of the grandfather drum carried through the air as learning and healing wove through the circle.

The presence and engagement of the Neechi Youth Camp was central to the week's success. These young leaders, many of whom returned in mentorship roles, participated in every activity and helped shape the program itself. Their voices, ideas, and enthusiasm brought energy and vision to the gathering. One participant reflected on how meaningful it was to feel part of something so

connected: “Yes, in a way it reminds me that I am connected to people and not alone.”

The gathering was also deeply intergenerational. One participant, a Sixties Scoop survivor and niece of residential school survivors, joined with her great-niece to reconnect with culture and family. She found the experience, particularly the sweat lodge, to be profoundly healing.

There were many stories of transformation. Participants spoke of feeling safe, learning in hands-on ways that resonated deeply, and experiencing a sense of community that stayed with them long after the week ended.

Thank you for supporting the Healing Fund through [Mission and Service](#). Your generosity makes gatherings like Mamawe Ota Askihk possible, creating space for cultural renewal, healing, and deep connection across generations.

Mission Prayer:

God is creative and self-giving, generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe. Nothing exists that does not find its source in God. Our first response to God’s providence is gratitude. We sing thanksgiving. Amen

Offering Doxology MV 191

What Can I Do?

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.
I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share.**

Offering Prayer:

One: We give our offering hopefully –

All:–with *certain* hope that you can use us and these gifts,

**–with *confident* hope that your blessing upon us and these gifts,
will be a blessing to others,**

–with *assured* hope that Christ is the gift of God for the world. Amen.

[Carol Penner, adapted]

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sending Hymn: MV 209

Go, Make a Difference

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Blessing: VU 646

We Are Marching

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

Siyahamba, oo-oo,
siyahamb', ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'
Siyahamba, oo-oo,
siyahamb', ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.