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 August 2025

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 **J. Hymn sing**:

Welcome and Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

- L: Why do we light these candles during this time of worship?
- P: We light these candles as symbols of our intention to be open to God's presence and action during our gathering.
- L: As we welcome these flickering flames, we wait to be transformed by the divine Spirit!

 Written by Christine LeBlanc; Gathering, Pentecost 1 2025, page 35; Used with permission

ISCentering Song:

Lord, Prepare me to be a Sanctuary (X2) * MV #18

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,

pure and holy tried and true;

with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Call to Worship:

- L: Welcome to this service in the midst of summer warmth and colour.
- P: We have come, excited to receive God's word in Scripture.
- L: We are here to praise our Creator and give our thanks.
- P: We have come to raise our spirits to the heavens in song.
- L: We are here to offer prayers for a better world..
- P: Gather here as one community to worship together and to be reminded to love one another.
- L: We have come as one family of God, eager to be attentive to the ways of holy goodness and loving kindness.
- P: Come, let us worship God.

Written by Rosemary Godin; Gathering, Pentecost 1 2025, page 36; Used with permission

JJ Hymn:

Gathering Prayer: Written by Richard Bott; Gathering, Pentecost 1; 2025, page 40; Used with permission In Christ's name, we come, O God, ready to be attentive to your voice. Help us to find that still place inside our celebration, to feel the quiet rhythms of our souls. Remind us that we are a part of your love. Remind us that all are a part of your love. Amen.

Story Time for all ages:

JJ Hymn:

Reading the Scripture:

L: A Word of God that is still speaking,

P: Thanks be to God.

<u>Message:</u>

II Hymn:

The Offering Invitation:

Our gifts and tithes are gladly received. We pledge them to the furthering of God's purpose and the support of this church: a ministry of welcome, education, justice, and care for all. To the glory of God, your offerings are joyfully received.

Written by Elaine Bidgood Sveet; Gathering, Pentecost 1; 2025, page 46; Used with permission

M&S:

JJ Sung Dedication: Grateful - Refrain- * MV #182

Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all,
O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,

thankful for your Holy Word, joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

Prayer of Dedication:

Loving God, in our bid to serve you, we worship with our words and deeds. And now, we offer our gifts of time, prayers, and material goods. May they be used to ease the lives of others, wherever they go. Let your love shine in all we do, so it catches on and trickles beyond the spaces where we live and worship. In the light of your gracious love, we offer our gifts. Bless the givers and those receiving. Amen.

Written by Diane Trollope; Gathering, Pentecost 1; 2025, page 47; Used with permission

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (X2) *VU#400

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace!

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

JJ Hymn:

Commissioning and Blessing:

∴ Choral Response:

God, Take My Hand (Vs 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 L: May the God of Peace go with you. **P:** And also with you.

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

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VU #638 God, Take My Hand: Public Domain