

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
17 Royal Rd. S., Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 1T8  
Office Phone: 204-857-4351 email [firstpc@mymts.net](mailto:firstpc@mymts.net)  
[www.firstpcportage.com](http://www.firstpcportage.com)

Minister: **John Zondag**  
Home Phone: 204-239-6719 email [jzondag@mymts.net](mailto:jzondag@mymts.net)  
Organist: **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**  
Clerk of Session: **Raymond Reichelt**

We acknowledge that we are in Treaty 1 territory, and that the land is the traditional lands of the Anishinabe and Dakota Nations, and the homeland of the Métis Nation

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET**

### **THE 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER HEALING AND RECONCILIATION SUNDAY 24 May 2020**

Regular Sunday services and most congregational activities continue to be suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will resume our regular activities as soon as the government determines that it is safe to do so.

John is producing an abbreviated service video every Sunday, approximately 30 minutes in length. Each Sunday morning, he sends out, by e-mail, the link that you need in order to access the video on YouTube, normally between 10:15 and 10:30. Attached to that e-mail is a full script of the service, which can be printed for any relative or friend who doesn't have access to the internet. You can access the current Sunday's service also through our congregational website, [www.firstpcportage.com](http://www.firstpcportage.com).

**Scripture Readings** - The scripture readings for today's service are

- Genesis 12.1-8 - God calls Abram
- Psalm 67 - "May God be gracious to us, and bless us"
- Luke 24.44-53 - The risen Jesus appears to his disciples
- Acts 2.17-41 - Peter's sermon on Pentecost

Next Sunday's readings will be

- Numbers 11.24-30 - God gives the Spirit to seventy elders
- Psalm 104.24-35 - "When you send out your Spirit ..."
- Acts 2.1-21 - The followers of Jesus receive the Holy Spirit
- John 7.37-39 - "If anyone is thirsty ..."

**Today** - Charlie Clifford is preaching the sermon in today's service. We had decided last fall to give our lay preachers opportunities to preach more often; not just when John is away, but also on Sundays when he is here. Charlie was therefore scheduled to preach on the 24th of May, and he and John have decided to stick with that date, even though our normal worship format is on hold due to the pandemic. We thank Charlie for his major contribution to today's service!

The **Bible study group** will meet by Zoom on Tuesday evening at 7:00.

The **Session** will meet by Zoom on Thursday evening at 7:00

**Newsletter** - The May issue of the Newsletter has been published and sent out. Those who don't have e-mail will receive their copies in the mail this time; the elders don't need to worry about delivering them. Many thanks again to Lisa Sneesby for putting the Newsletter together, to Gwen Henwood for printing the hard copies, and to Mardine Garnham for preparing the envelopes for mailing!

**Today is Healing and Reconciliation Sunday.** In its 1994 Confession, The Presbyterian Church in Canada acknowledged its complicity in a system that was formed to erase Indigenous identity. May 24 is an opportunity for the church to collectively hold up in prayer the children who attended residential schools and their families. Recalling the legacy honours the resilience and courage of Survivors who fought, and continue to fight, for justice and their rights. Recalling the legacy honours the memory of children who didn't make it home from residential schools and the families who mourn them. Recalling the legacy draws attention to the intergenerational harm still affecting Survivors, their families and communities. It acknowledges the responsibility that our church, Canadians, and governments have to continue the relationship-building work for justice with and for Indigenous peoples. *Living Faith* says, "God's justice is seen when we deal fairly with each other, and strive to change customs and practices that oppress and enslave others." (*Living Faith*, 8.4.2) — PCC website ([www.presbyterian.ca](http://www.presbyterian.ca))

**Prayer Requests** - If you have a request for prayer that you would like to have shared with the congregation, please phone or e-mail John, and it will be included in the weekly Announcements Sheet.

**Devotional Guide** - Copies of the May-June issue of the devotional guide *Today* can be picked up from the church during regular office hours from Tuesday to Saturday. They are set out on the stairs at the office entrance. If the door is locked, just ring the doorbell. You may want to phone ahead to let John know when you're coming. Alternatively, he can deliver a copy to you — as long as you have an easily-accessible mailbox that he can drop it into.

### **Mission Moment**

#### **Equipping congregations through webinars**

Are you interested in learning about digital giving? Church renewal? Sharing your congregation's story in inspiring ways? Moving forward with your church's vision? The PCC's webinars provide online learning opportunities that equip congregations on topics relating to leadership, renewal and stewardship. Recorded and posted online for viewing at any time, each webinar is free, made possible by gifts to Presbyterians Sharing. It's easy to register and participate. To find out about upcoming webinars, visit [presbyterian.ca/webinars](http://presbyterian.ca/webinars).

*Presbyterians Sharing provides learning opportunities*