

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

17 Royal Rd. S., Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 1T8
Office Phone: 204-857-4351 email firstpc@mymts.net
www.firstpcportage.com

Interim Moderator: **Gladys Anderson**
email gladys@andersonbunch.com, Phone: 204-476-3027

Organist: **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**
Clerk of Session: **Raymond Reichelt**

ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER CHRISTIAN FAMILY SUNDAY

10 May 2026

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to our guests, and invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to remain for coffee and fellowship, downstairs in the Church Hall, following the service. We thank **Lalaine Buan** for hosting today.

We thank **Wilma Shirriff**, who is leading our service today.

Welcome & Announcements - **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**.

The Greeter this morning is **Hilda Bruinooge**.

The Reader today is **Keith Kelly**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are
Acts 17.22-31 - Paul's sermon in Athens
Psalm 66.8-20 - Praise our God, you peoples
1 Peter 3.13-22 - Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension
John 14.15-21 - The promise of the Holy Spirit

This Week at First Church:

Monday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study - The first of a 5-week study on faith and mental health - by Zoom

Coming up:

Sunday, 17 May (next week) - Communion service

The Christian Year - This Thursday is **Ascension Day**, the festival that commemorates Jesus' "ascension", or return to heaven, which is described in **Acts 1.1-11**. Acts 1.3 says that Jesus appeared to the disciples over a period of 40 days following his resurrection, and so Ascension Day is the 40th day of the Easter Season, always falling on the Thursday following the 6th Sunday of Easter. The Sunday either before or after Ascension Day is designated "Ascension Sunday".

Jesus' ascension marked the end of his ministry on earth, and his return to his glorious existence in heaven. From then on, his ministry on earth would be continued by his followers, the Christian church, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The ascension reminds us that Jesus is not just a person of the past, but also a person of the present — and of the future. In Acts 1.1-11, we find not only the account of Jesus' ascension, but also the promise that he will someday return from heaven.

The symbolic color for Ascension Day is **white**, symbolizing joy and celebration.

(from Announcements Sheet, 22 May 2022)

Mission Moment

Laxmi Bhandari is a 31-year-old mother of two from Nepal who once lived in social isolation. She didn't attend group activities because she was too shy. Then she was invited to take part in a project that aims to help women and other excluded groups live dignified lives through social and economic empowerment. Laxmi's leadership qualities were quickly recognized, and she was selected as the chair of her Village Women's Group. She now confidently facilitates monthly meetings, encouraging other women to participate. After learning about poultry and goat farming, Laxmi had the confidence to begin pursuing a livelihood in animal husbandry. Today, her rearing of goats, chickens and buffalo is creating a more sustainable income for her family. *Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)*'s support of the *International Nepal Fellowship* helped to make this happen.