



RIVERBEND UNITED CHURCH

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July 14, 2019

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. As we worship today, we honour their stewardship of this land through the ages.

We Gather Together

Prelude

Andrew Sims

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Gather Us in

MV 7

Call to Worship *(Celebrate God's Presence)*

Joanne Olson

One: Be still and know that God is.

All: Before creation began, God was.

One: And when all human striving has ceased, God will still be.

All: Let us sing praise to our God.

Opening Prayer *(Written by Emily Bamforth)*

One: God of Wonder, teach us to see.

All: Help us to be present to the world around us. When our lives are taken up in anticipating the future, remind us that it is the present – the here and now – that is your divine gift to us.

One: Teach us to question.

All: You created us as people of intelligence and curiosity. Guide us in our explorations of your marvellous creation; from chanting birds and budding flowers, to roaring rivers and mighty glaciers, to tiny cell and swirling galaxies.

One: Teach us to struggle.

All: It is often through struggle that enlightenment comes. Sometimes we do not succeed and lose faith in our failures. Remind us that failure and imperfections are gifts. It is through our mistakes that we learn to grow.

One: Teach us to journey.

All: Each one of us seeks something different on this spiritual journey through life. We seek your presence to guide us, so that we, like Jesus, may follow in your footsteps. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

Let All Things Now Living

VU 242

Theme Focus

“Voices from the Past”

Hymn

Spirit Open My Heart

MV 79

We Listen for God's Ongoing Word

Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 1: 18-31

Solo

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus (S. T. Francis)

Reflection

“Blessed are the Foolish”

Emily Bamforth

*Hymn of Response

Long Before the Night (Vss. 1, 2, 5)

VU 282

We Share In Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Hymn

O God Hear Our Prayer

VU 948

Meditation Prayer

(Written by Emily Bamforth)

We Offer our Gifts and our Lives

Offering Our Gifts / Offering Prayer

*Parting Hymn *Go Make a Difference* MV 209

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction *Go Make a Difference (Chorus only)* MV 209

*Postlude

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined
VU indicates the red hard-bound hymnal, Voices United
MV indicates the small paper-bound hymnal More Voices*

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### ***Thank you to our guest worship leader Emily Bamforth! Homegrown goodness...***

Emily Bamforth grew up attending Riverbend United Church with her family, was confirmed in the church, and discovered her love of singing as a member of the Riverbend Choir. She is now a palaeontologist with the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, based in the small town of Eastend, SK. She is also a Licensed Lay Worship Leader with the Living Skies Region (formally Chinook Presbytery), and serves a number of small, rural congregations in southwest Saskatchewan.

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Hearing assistance is available.
Please ask at the sound booth.

*Riverbend United Church
Welcomes You*

If you are new with us we offer you a special welcome.

Please feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pews or to our minister, Valerie. If you fill out a Contact Card from the pew rack we will send you a weekly email with news & upcoming events.