

September 29th, 2024

Congregational responses are in bold (*) Indicates Standing

We Come Together

Prelude... (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

***Introit** "Grateful" **MV#182**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: There is a time to work and a time to play,

All: a time to rest and a time to pray.

One: There is a time to be still and a time to hear,

All: a time to pause and know God is near.

One: There is a time to care for friend and stranger,

All: a time to reflect on both cross and manger.

One: There is a time to sing, and a time to praise, with our hearts set ablaze.

All: That time is here in community, as we worship our God in unity.

***Hymn:** "Be Thou My Vision" **VU#642**

Opening Prayer: (*unison*)

Loving God, we praise and adore You, not only for being the God of history but also the God of our story. You have gathered us here to remind us that You are our God, and we are Your Children. That in You, we find a rhythm that allows us to live into the fullness of life. Be with us as we approach Your Living Word this day and help us to remain open to Your Spirit present in this place. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Personal Prayer: "Lord, Listen to Your Children..." x2 **VU#400**
(Concluding with The Lord's Prayer)

Children's Learning Time

Children's Prayer:

Open us to Your Spirit, dear God, and teach us how to be, Your children in this time and place, for all the world to see. Your light is here to guide us, to teach us how to care, for Your creatures and creation, for Your people everywhere. Amen.

***Hymn:** "My Love Colours Outside the Lines" **MV#138**

We Listen to the Word

Prayer of Illumination: **Reader: Rev. Dr. Beverly Daley**

Scripture Lesson:

Epistle: James 5: 13-20

Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37

Response:

One: This is God's Word,

All: **may the Spirit bless us with understanding.**

Sermon "Stumbling Block"

Anthem

Prayers of the People

***Hymn:** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" **VU#262**

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

***Sung Dedication:**

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

VU#543 vs. 1

Offertory Prayer: (*unison*)

God of countless surprises, once again we stand before You offering a portion of our gifts. May these gifts be transformed into acts of kindness, expressions of solidarity, and deeds of compassion. As we share these offerings, we also commit ourselves anew to the courageous task of being Your witness here in this world offering all we are to You. Amen.

***Hymn:** "One More Step Along the World I Go" **VU#639**

Closing Blessing:

One: As we prepare ourselves to go fourth from this space of sanctuary and peace may we go:

All: With a sense of wonder into God's world, with a sense of delight at Jesus' presence, and with a sense of hopefulness at the Spirit's leading. May we be blessed this day to be a blessing for others. Amen.

***Extinguishing of the Christ Light**

***Choral Blessing** "A Blessing" **VU#428**

Postlude

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Volunteer Schedule:

Ushers: Sept 29 Sue & John	Oct 6 Sandra and Gill Webb
Screens: Sept 29 Kevin	Oct 6 Erik Oct 13 Tracy

This week's calendar			
Monday	All day	Office closed	
Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Kitchen
	10:00am	M&P Meeting	Boardroom
Wednesday	12:30pm	Writers Circle	Boardroom
	7:00pm	Choir	Sanctuary
Saturday	Morning	Scout Bottle Drive	Parking Lot
Sunday	10:30am	Kids Korner	Church Hall

***Tai Chi** with Val is offered Mon, Wed & Fri at 9:30am*

Scouts, Guides and outside rentals also use the building throughout the week.

Announcements:

Orange Shirt Day: On September 30, people all across Canada will wear orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential institutions. Today we wear orange to recognize this important time.

Kids Korner: We will be running a monthly children's ministry program for 5–12-year-olds beginning next Sunday, October 6th. We have a fun, new curriculum this year and we're hoping all young people can make it!

Hallowe'en Coffee and Muffin Party : Thursday, October 31st
9:30am to 11:30am. Free will offering. Craft and Bake table as well.

Volunteers Needed! Have you ever thought about joining the worship team? Now is a great time! Talk to Rev. Scott or Emily to find out how to participate.

Sept 17th Council Meeting Highlights: CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you letter from the United Church of Canada for M&S givings from 2023. Included was a thermometer poster to track current givings. Thank you letter from the region thanking Mount Royal for participation in test phase of Self Assessment Questionnaire. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Preapproved \$25,000 has been transferred from investment fund to operating fund. **SYSTEMS COMMITTEE:** Mount Royal is applying the tech services menu fees for all funerals and events. Church hall sound system will be repaired. **PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE:** Committee met recently and continue with visits and phone calls. **UCW/CRAFT GROUP:** UCW is in full swing. Bridge starts mid October. Craft Group has a new member. Halloween Muffin Party will be held on Oct. 31st. **WORSHIP COMMITTEE:** Discussion on the necessity of having a worship committee chair when Rev. Scott Stuart is on sabbatical. **FUNDY ST. LAWRENCE DAWNING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL:** Upcoming Diversity workshop at St. Paul's. Is an excellent and local opportunity to learn more about becoming an affirming church. Upcoming "Flourish Workshop" with the United Church moderator on November 9th at Visions United Church. **PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE:** Discussion on the rezoning issue Mount Royal is having with the city regarding the after-school learning centre. Summary report is being submitted to receive the final \$1000 of the Faithful Footprints grant. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Caroline Gingles resigned as chair. **FINANCE/ TRUSTEES:** Katja's consulting services were contracted for six-month term. She has a lot of experience with grants that Mount Royal will investigate in more detail. Moved that Mount Royal United Church Council submit a "variance application" to the Planning

Advisory Committee. **Motion Carried. Insurance:** insurance renewal contains a 5% increase. **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** Upcoming fundraisers: Sobeys cards – approx. 3rd week of November, Indoor Yard Sale – November 22 & 23, pancake breakfast – November 2.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT/KIDS KORNER: There will be six Kids Korner sessions offered for the 2024/2025 season using a new curriculum. **OTHER BUSINESS: Chair of Council:** Discussion on the importance of having a chair of council.



Bless my dear child,
loving God,
as you bless all your beloved children,
at the start of this new school year.

May we all grow stronger, smarter and kinder.

May our confidence and pride grow alongside our humility and grace.

May our love and community grow alongside our compassion.

May our faith grow alongside our hope in a better world.

May our knowledge grow alongside our wisdom.

May our roots grow alongside your dream of flourishing life.

May it be so for my child.

May it be so for all of us.

Amen.

- Alydia Rae Smith (United Church of Canada)