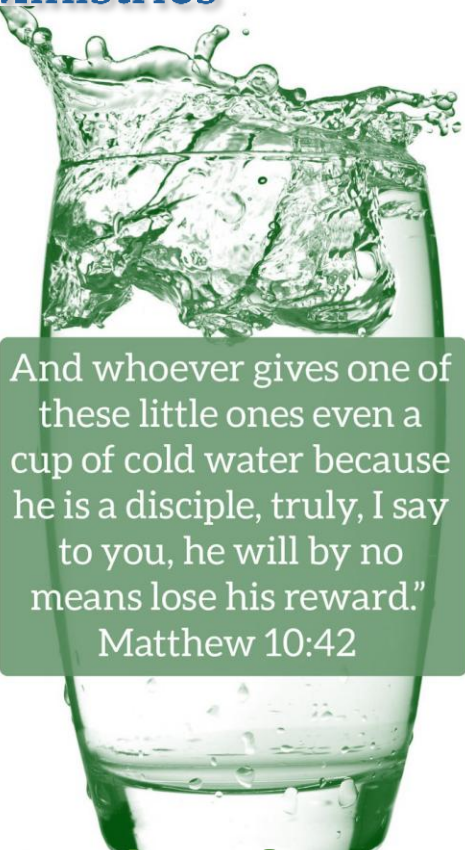




ANGLICAN & UNITED Church Ministries

Home of
St. Mary the Virgin Anglican
& Vegreville United Churches



And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."
Matthew 10:42

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28th. 2026

**A Sunday Prayer Service of the Word in the
Anglican Church Tradition**

Rector & Minister in Charge: The Rev. Laureta Blondin

Music provided by Lucille Landry

(* = Please stand, but only if it is comfortable to do so)

Welcome in the name of Christ to the Anglican and United Church Ministries in Vegreville and thank you for joining us on this special day. We pray that you enjoy your time with us and that your spirit is enriched as we sit together at the feet of our Saviour. We believe that no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey God welcomes you... and so do we! If you are visiting us, a warm welcome to you. We pray that you and your family are blessed and experience Christ's love in this morning's service. God's richest blessings be on you!

The congregations of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and Vegreville United Church is committed to the ongoing work of being fully affirming churches. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone into the life of our congregations, without exception to ability, age, race, place of origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, life stage, or any other basis by which a person can be pre-judged. You are invited to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.

The congregations of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and Vegreville United Church respectfully acknowledges that we are located on ancestral Treaty Six Territory land ᐱᓄᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (Siksikaitstapi), a traditional gathering place, travelling route and home for diverse indigenous peoples including the Nehiyawak (Cree), Tsuut'ina (Sarcee), Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Métis, Dënë Sųłıńé (Chipewyan), Anishinaabe (Ojibway-Saulteaux), Inuk (Inuit), and many others whose histories, languages and cultures continue to influence our vibrant local communities. We give thanks for their hospitality and the opportunity to share common ground.

Children are welcome at all services! We believe it is very important for families to worship together. Don't feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children — and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles — as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, "faith is caught, not taught!"

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. *1 Peter 2.9*

Musical Prelude

Land Acknowledgement & Prayer

All As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on Treaty 6 lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original First Nations peoples.

Creator of all, give us one heart and one mind that we may live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with all diverse peoples who now call this land home. Amen.

* 🎵 **Opening Hymn** *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* (VU #559)

The Gathering

One Lord, open our lips,

All **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

One O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ☩:**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

The Invitatory

One The Lord is in his holy temple.

All **O come, let us worship.**

The Venite

Psalm 95.1-7

All Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his for he made it, *
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the
sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

One The Lord is in his holy temple.

All O come, let us worship.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Genesis 22.1-14 [NRSV]

22After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ²He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with

the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' ⁸Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ¹²He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place 'The Lord will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 13

- 1 How long, O Lord? will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.

5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the name of the Lord Most High.

Reader Let us pray.

All **Loving and merciful God, hear the prayers of those who cry to you, and shine with the light of your presence on those who live in the shadow of death. May we rejoice in your saving help and sing you songs of praise in the name of our risen Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Second Reading Romans 6.12–23 [NRSV]

¹²Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have

been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

♪ **Gradual Hymn..... O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee** (VU #560)

The Gospel Matthew 10.40–42 [NRSV]

One The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

One This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

⁴⁰Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

One The Gospel of Christ.

All **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Laureta Blondin

Hear, O Israel

All **Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. Amen.**

Invitation to Generosity

Officiant This is our opportunity to make a difference. You are invited to bring what you have and share it. Don't worry that the gift you bring is too small. Great changes can arise from the smallest gift — even from a cup of cold water. The gifts that we fear are too small do make a difference — whether to one person or to the whole world. Let us present our offerings.

♪ **Offertory Hymn**..... **He Leadeth Me** (VU #657)

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Let us pray,

All **God of wisdom, receive all we offer you this day. Enrich our lives with the gifts of your Spirit, that we may follow the way of our Lord Jesus Christ, and serve one another in freedom. We ask this in his name. Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

We hold the following ministries, communities, and people in prayer. During the Prayers of the People in our services of worship we bring before God the needs of others and ourselves. Please consider offering these requests to God in your own daily prayers through this week.

Let us pray for the Church, the world, all people and one another. Our response to, Lord in your mercy," is "hear our prayer."

Father, you pay us the compliment of revealing hard truths to us. You expect us to see the world honestly, and to value your truth above even earthly peace. You speak to us of sin and death, cross bearing and persecution, suffering and service. Give us a double measure of your Spirit as we seek to be disciples of Jesus, because, dear Lord, we're going to need it! (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for the church. Today:

- in the Anglican Communion's world cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and leadership of *The Anglican Church of Southern Africa* as well as the Edmonton Diocese's own companion Diocese of Buyé.

- in the United Church of Canada cycle of prayer, we pray for the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, our Moderator and for the people and leadership of the *Nakonha:ka Region*.
- in the Anglican Church of Canada cycle of prayer, we pray for our Primate, the Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, Archbishop and for Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces, the Rt. Rev. Nigel Shaw.
- in the Northern Spirit Region cycle of prayer, we pray for Leigh Sinclair, our chair, and for the Rev. Adam Hall, our Pastoral Relations Minister, as well as the people and leadership of the *Two Hills Pastoral Charge*.
- in the Diocese of Edmonton cycle of prayer, we pray for the Rt. Rev. Stephen London, our Bishop and for the people and leadership of *St. Mary, Ponoka*.
- in our local cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and the leadership of the *St. John's Baptist Russo Greek Orthodox Church*.
- in our indigenous cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and the leadership of the *Samson Cree Nation*.

Give the Church courage to speak your truth, even when that seems to bring not peace but a sword. Keep it faithful to the testimony of apostles and martyrs, saints, and doctors of your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church throughout all time and space. Grant that it should prefer nothing whatsoever to Christ; and that it should count as its greatest honour the bearing of his Cross in this sin-shadowed world (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve the lives of your persecuted servants from those who despise your Law. When they must bear a bitter cross, keep them faithful, firmly fixed on the joy set before them. Give us courage to defend and assist them. Give us grace to faithfully serve the Lord for whom they are willing to die (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the people and ministries of this congregation. Give us fresh ways to reach, speak with, and walk alongside people who don't know your love (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace. As we celebrate the 159th year of Canadian

Confederation this week, give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance. Teach us all to live together as your children, and to work together for the prospering of all (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray on behalf of your servants who suffer in body, mind, spirit, or circumstance, and for all who crave your mercy and blessing, including those we bring before you now and name aloud or hold within the silence of our hearts (*long pause*). Along with those for whom no one prays, restore them to health, wholeness, and hope. And bless all caregivers, doctors, nurses, technicians, and therapists with compassion, expertise, and cheerful service. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We joyfully pray for Savannah Toma and Juan Unger who, God willing, will be married in Hairy Hill on July 25th (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We joyfully pray for all our brothers and sisters in this community celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and any other life milestones or accomplishments (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With reverence and affection, we remember before you our beloved dead. Comfort all who grieve. Help us care for each other for Jesus' sake (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, dear Father, as they touch your heart through the Spirit who searches our hearts. For the sake of your beloved Son, answer them as may be best for us and give you glory. **Amen.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

One Let us pray.

All **Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love fulfils the law. May we love you with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength, and may we love our neighbour as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

* ♪ **The Lord's Prayer**(VU 960)

One And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

All **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 them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

God Moments & Announcements

♪ **Recessional Hymn.....Great is Thy Faithfulness** (VU #288)

The Dismissal

One Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

All **Thanks be to God!**

* ♪ **Three-Fold Amen**

Thank you for worshipping with us! Please join us for fellowship time with refreshments and treats in the auditorium following the worship service.

Announcements: Life and Work of the Church

Donations to our churches: To continue the good work of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican and Vegreville United churches and ensure their ongoing presence in our community, your financial support is most appreciated. Donations can be made by either cash, cheque or e-transfer. Please use one of the envelopes located in the Narthex for cash or cheque donations and place the envelope in the offertory plate by the door. If writing a cheque, **please ensure your cheque is made payable to either**

Vegreville United Church or St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church.

Annual Tax Receipts are provided for all donations totalling \$20 or more per year to the church of your choice. E-transfers for Vegreville United Church can be sent to vegucc@telusplanet.net and e-transfers for St. Mary's can be sent to stmarysvegreville@gmail.com. Cheques can also be sent via post to 5126-48 Avenue, Vegreville, AB T9C 1M7.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule: Worship services are at 10:00 AM (unless otherwise noted) and alternate between the Anglican and United worship styles at Vegreville United with occasional blended services:

July 5th **6th Sunday after Pentecost:** A communion service in the United Church tradition.

July 12th **7th Sunday after Pentecost:** A worship service in the Anglican Church tradition.

July 19th **8th Sunday after Pentecost:** A worship service in the United Church tradition.

July 26th **9th Sunday after Pentecost:** A communion service in the Anglican Church tradition.



Hot Dog & Smokies BBQ Dates: Friday, July 3rd and Friday, July 31st, at the Vegreville Co-op (4914-51 Ave.), 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Hot dogs, smokies, and all the fixings, along with chips and pop for a fast and easy lunch. Come support our church community by having lunch. Cost is by donation with all funds collected to help maintain our church presence in the community.

Please email Irene Sabados in the Church office, vegucc@telusplanet.net or give her a call (780) 632-2338 for questions, bulletin submissions or to add a name to the prayers for the sick and deceased.

**Please check out our events page
on our church website for more upcoming events:**
<https://vegrevilleunitedchurch.com/events>