



***Building Community through love, grace and acceptance – all are welcome!***

Who are the ministers of Lansing United? *All of us!*

Music Leadership: Chris Kovarik • Office Administrator: Rebecca Scanga

Worship Leader: Rev. Brad Inglis

**Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - PIE Day**

*Thank you for being here at Lansing United! We are a welcoming and affirming community of faith where you are only a visitor once - we embrace diversity and welcome the seekers, the questioners, the new-timers, the old-timers, young and old and everyone in between. Come every Sunday, come only on special occasions, come as you are, come when you can and know you are always welcome.*

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***To assist you in our service:***

*Devices are available for those who have hearing impairments. Please speak to one of the greeters.*

*Throughout the order of service you will notice an “\*” indicating when we stand (as we are able), and **Bold** print indicating congregational responses.*

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*We pride ourselves on being a family friendly congregation and have engaged the help of Ping (currently a University Student) to assist with care and activities in our Sunday School Room found in the north hall of the building, behind the kitchen with additional access to the north hall from the doors at the front of the sanctuary. Following the story time, Ping takes the children to the Sunday School Room.*

*Parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to join your little person if they are feeling apprehensive and please know they are under excellent care with Ping. Feel free to check on them during the service. There is also an activity table set up in the sanctuary near the AV equipment and you are welcome to utilize that space as well. A change station is located in the accessible washroom found in the west hall of the building. There are juice boxes and snacks always available. When we host communion,*

*all ages are invited to the table. We appreciate young people joining in our services and understand that they are learning the lay of the land as they go. Please don't feel uncomfortable as they are finding their way and feel free to move with them to attend to their needs.*

✍ Please be aware that our worship service is live streamed and recorded on the Internet. If you do not want to be filmed, please do not sit in or walk through the front centre rows or centre aisle at the front of the worship area during worship.

If you present yourself on the dais, you are consenting to being filmed.

A “no video” zone is available in the chairs near the storage room on the west side of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please ask. Thanks!

## **Gathering Music and Prelude**

### **Welcome and announcements – *Life around Lansing***

### **Acknowledgement of the Territorial Land and What We Believe**

As we gather together, we acknowledge this sacred land. It has been a site of human activity for more than 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit. The Traditional Territory that Lansing United Church is on, falls under Treaty No. 13, agreed to by the Crown of England and the Chiefs of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful for this land that was under their care. Our pledge is to care for this land as a symbol of our desire to walk with Indigenous peoples in a spirit of reconciliation and respect.

### **We are called to breathe...**

### **Lighting our guiding candles...**

### **Our Lenten Liturgy...Brad**

### **Opening Prayer...**

Lead us O God in Your gentle ways,  
feeding us what we need;

**calm - in the midst of stress,**

light and hope - in the midst of darkness.  
Clarity – in the midst of chaos.  
Fill us with Your Spirit O God,  
instill in us a sense of home, wherever we may be. Amen

\* Hymn ~ VU #574 *Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love*

Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you:  
wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell  
joyfully came, joyfully came,  
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,  
sharing their sorrow and shame,  
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,  
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.

Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;  
why do they roam? why do they roam?  
Love only waits to forgive and forget;  
home, weary wanderers, home!  
Wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!  
Come and abide, come and abide,  
lifting my life till it rises above  
envy and falsehood and pride:  
seeking to be, seeking to be  
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

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A Story for the young and young at heart - *Frog and Toad*

*Following the story, Ping will take any children that are interested, to the Sunday School Room located in the back hall which can also be reached through the doors at the front of the sanctuary. There will be activities and the children are welcome to move back and forth between the two spaces. There is also a small table for colouring in front of the AV desk in the sanctuary.*

**Prayer For Insight** *(Taken in part from David Sparks – Prayers to Share)*

Open our eyes, O God,

**to see the gifts and talents in ourselves that others see.**

**Enable others to see their own gifts and talents, that we see in them.**

**Help us to see the oppressed in our communities and stand beside them.**

**Enable us to see those who are fearful and struggling,**

**living without the basic necessities.**

**Help us to support them with compassion and understanding.**

**Words of Assurance ~ Brad**

**Reading from our ancient scriptures...*Psalm 23 (A Contemporary Version)***

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall want for nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside quiet waters,

he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me; your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me

all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Ancient words to remind that remind us of our journey....thanks be to God.**

**Anthem ~ TLUS #92 *The darkness comes***

Words and Music, David Robertson, administered by The United Church of Canada. Contributors: David Robertson, The United Church of Canada. Tune: © David Robertson Text: © David Robertson

**More words from our ancient scriptures...*John 9:1-41 reading from the Message***

**9 1-2** Walking down the street,

Jesus saw a man blind from birth.

His disciples asked, “Rabbi, who sinned:

this man or his parents, causing him to be born blind?”

**3-5** Jesus said, “You’re asking the wrong question.

You’re looking for someone to blame.

There is no such cause-effect here.

Look instead for what God can do.

We need to be energetically at work

for the One who sent me here, working while the sun shines. When night falls, the workday is over.

For as long as I am in the world, there is plenty of light.

I am the world’s Light.”

**6-7** He said this and then spit in the dust,

made a clay paste with the saliva,

rubbed the paste on the blind man’s eyes, and said,

“Go, wash at the Pool of Siloam”

The man went and washed—and saw.

**8** Soon the town was buzzing.

His relatives and those who year after year had seen him

as a blind man begging were saying,

“Why, isn’t this the man we knew, who sat here and begged?”

**9** Others said, “It’s him all right!”

But others objected, “It’s not the same man at all.

It just looks like him.”

He said, “It’s me, the very one.”

**10** They said, “How did your eyes get opened?”

**11** “A man named Jesus made a paste and rubbed it on my eyes and told me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’

I did what he said. When I washed, I saw.”

**12** “So where is he?”

“I don’t know.”

**13-15** They marched the man to the Pharisees.

This day when Jesus made the paste and healed his blindness **was the Sabbath.**

The Pharisees grilled him again on how he had come to see.

He said, “He put a clay paste on my eyes,  
and I washed, and now I see.”

**16** Some of the Pharisees said,

“Obviously, this man can’t be from God.

He doesn’t keep the Sabbath.”

Others countered, “How can a bad man do miraculous,  
God-revealing things like this?”

There was a split in their ranks.

**17** They came back at the blind man,

“You’re the expert. He opened *your* eyes.

What do you say about him?”

He said, “He is a prophet.”

**18-19** The Jews didn’t believe it,

didn’t believe the man was blind to begin with.

So they called the parents of the man now bright-eyed  
with sight. They asked them,

“Is this your son, the one you say was born blind?

So how is it that he now sees?”

**20-23** His parents said,

“We know he is our son, and we know he was born blind.

But we don’t know how he came to see

—haven’t a clue about who opened his eyes.

Why don’t you ask him?

He’s a grown man and can speak for himself.”

(His parents were talking like this because they were intimidated by the Jewish leaders,  
who had already decided that anyone who took a stand that this was the Messiah would  
be kicked out of the meeting place. That’s why his parents said, “Ask him. He’s a grown  
man.”)

**24** They called the man back a second time

—the man who had been blind—and told him,

“Give credit to God. We know this man is an impostor.”

**25** He replied, “I know nothing about that one way or the other. But I know one thing for  
sure: I was blind

... I now see.”

26 They said, “What did he do to you?  
How did he open your eyes?”

27 “I’ve told you over and over and you haven’t listened.  
Why do you want to hear it again?

Are you so eager to become his disciples?”

28-29 With that they jumped all over him.

“*You* might be a disciple of that man,  
but we’re disciples of Moses.

We know for sure that God spoke to Moses,  
but we have no idea where this man even comes from.”

30-33 The man replied, “This is amazing!

You claim to know **nothing** about him, but the fact is,  
he opened my eyes!

...tired of his nonsense the Pharisees eventually threw the man out on the street...

35 Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,  
and went and found him. He asked him,  
“Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

36 The man said,

“Point him out to me, sir, so that I can believe in him.”

37 Jesus said, “You’re looking right at him.  
Don’t you recognize my voice?”

38 “Master, I believe,” the man said,  
and worshiped him.

39 Jesus then said,

“I came into the world  
to bring everything into the clear light of day,  
making all the distinctions clear,  
so that those who **have never** seen will see,  
and those who have made a great **pretense** of seeing  
**will be exposed as blind.**”

40 Some Pharisees overheard him and said,  
“Does that mean you’re calling us blind?”

41 Jesus said, “If you were really blind, you would be blameless, but since you claim to  
see everything so well,  
you’re accountable for every fault and failure.”

**...may these words from our ancient scriptures remind us that all are worthy.**

Reflection ~ ...*finding new ways of doing business.*

\* Hymn ~ VU #371 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear  
voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare  
love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

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**Affirmation of Faith~ A New Creed**

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,

**who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**Offertory Hymn ~ MV #120 *My Soul Cries Out* (Refrain only)**

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.**

**Let the fires of your justice burn.**

**Wipe away all tears,**

**for the dawn draws near,**

**and the world is about to turn!**

Contributors: Rory Coone. Tune: © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

**Offering** ~ *although not currently passing the plate, you will find it as you enter the sanctuary. There are many ways of contributing to the life and work of Lansing United Church. Cash or cheque donations are appreciated, you can go on PAR (pre-authorized remittance taken from your account monthly), make an e-transfer, volunteer on one of our committees. We believe in doing what you can, when you can and give thanks for the many ways we can work together, sharing ideas, love, support and resources. May we be a blessing to many, in our own unique ways.*

**Prayer Prelude ~ VU # 400 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***

**Lord, listen to your children praying,**

**Lord, send your Spirit in this place;**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,**

**send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

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**Prayers of the people and as is our tradition, we will close with singing the Lord's Prayer.**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name;  
your kingdom come;  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil  
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.**

Composed by: David Haus 1986. Music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

**\* Hymn ~ VU #747 *Psalm 23 The Lord's My Shepherd***

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me,  
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
even for his own name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou has furnished**

**in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me,  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.**

Type: Music. Contributors: Jesse Seymour Irvine. Words Contributors: Lloyd Larson

### **Closing Prayer**

**God, send us from here bright-eyed and bushy-tailed!  
Open us to all of the wonders that You lay before us.  
Don't let us take anything for granted.  
Help us to be grateful for all that we have and the lessons we learn along the way.  
Bless those we love and those we don't,  
keeping all of us in Your care. ~ Amen**

**A blessing as we go into our week... *Brad***

### **Sung Benediction**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

Contributors: Nancy Price, Don Besig. Tune:©1988 Harold Flammer Music, a division of Shawnee Press, Inc. Text:©1988 by Harold Flammer Music, a Division of Shawnee Press, Inc

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### **\* Postlude**

*Thank you for joining us this morning for worship with Lansing United and to those who assisted with today's service. There are lots of ways to be involved in the life and work of the church and everyone is appreciated for the unique gifts that you bring! You can call the church office and leave a message and someone will get back to you with information 416•221•1722. You are welcome to contact Rev. Brad on his cell phone 416•268•7592 for urgent needs, to set up a visit or get information. He can also be reached by email at [minister@lansingchurch.com](mailto:minister@lansingchurch.com). We do send out at least two weekly e-blasts and if you*

*would like to be on this mail list, please let Brad know. And most importantly, if there is something you didn't understand about the service today, want further discussion or to learn more about church committees and why we do things the way we do, or offer feedback...please don't hesitate to contact Brad or the office 416-221-1722 or [lansingunited@lansingchurch.com](mailto:lansingunited@lansingchurch.com)*

*Please notify the office if you or someone you know is ill or in hospital and needing some extra care, support and/or prayers. Brad is always happy to make a visit or have a phone conversation. If you have a specific prayer you would like shared on a Sunday morning during the prayers of the people, please let Brad know - keeping in mind, if the prayer is for someone other than yourself, that they are comfortable with sharing.*

### **What is Pie Day?**

PIE day was developed as a reminder for Affirming Congregations (of which Lansing is), that our commitment is to be **Public** about our belief that we are all created in God's image. We need to be **Intentional** about our message, hence our inclusive pride flag that hangs from our welcome table each week to greet visitors. And we commit to being **Explicit** in our actions and words – that Lansing is a safe and welcoming place for all, regardless of how you identify, who you love, your age, your background. These are the standards we hold ourselves to.

Our **PIE Day** is a takeoff of what has been traditionally recognized in the *Math* world as  $\pi$  (PI)Day - March 14th an annual celebration of the mathematical constant  $\pi$  (**pi**). March is the 3rd month and 3, 1 and 4 are the first three significant figures of  $\pi$ .

So, we have the excuse to serve pie and celebrate the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in our own faith communities and across Canada.

### **Help Spread the Good News!**

Following the incredible success of our Christmas mailout, it's time to reach our neighbours again for Easter! We are sending out **1,000 information packs** to invite our community into the life of Lansing—sharing everything from info about us, when we worship, ways to get involved, all about Nearly New and shopping, volunteers and donation opportunities. We will also share information about the other congregations at the church, special events, the upcoming April Challenge and annual Lansing open house on March 28<sup>th</sup> – Bake Sale, Nearly New opening and our Easter services.

We have the flyers and we have the delivery team (paid students), but we need **you** to help us get them ready for the mailbag!

## The Details

**When:** Wednesday, March 18th | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Where:** "Coffee with Brad" (Assembly Central!)

**The Job:** Simple assembling and stapling. No tricky folding required—just teamwork and conversation.

**The Perks:** Fresh coffee, tea and delicious treats to keep our energy up!

## How You Can Help

**Join the Assembly Line:** Spend an afternoon in great company while helping us "blanket" the neighbourhood with our message.

**Support the Mission:** If you can't make it but want to help cover the costs of this outreach, please see **Bruce Hemming** (Treasurer) or **Rebecca** in the office.

**Let's work together to let our neighbours know they are welcome here. See you Wednesday!**

## ...in and around the church

**Do you have a prayer request?** Please let Brad know if you would like it shared during the prayers of the people.

**Coffee with Brad** ~Wednesday's from 1pm to 3pm. All are welcome! This is just a drop in, come at any time.

☐ **Lenten Study Group** - Thursdays 1 to 2:30 pm in the Sanctuary until April 2nd. Each Sunday there will be a short reading given out with things to ponder. When we meet on the Thursday we will discuss the reading together. If you can't make it, you can still do it on your own or with a friend. We are using the book *Bless, Break, Share - Recipes for Living Faithfully*. **DON'T** forget to pick up the reading before you leave today or call or email the office and ask Rebecca to email it to you.

## Easter around Lansing...

- March 29th - Palm Sunday – traditional service of the palms.
- April 3rd - Good Friday Service at 10am – quiet and contemplative.
- April 5th - Easter Sunday with communion for those wishing to participate.
- The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday April 6 and 7 for a break.

## Nearly New Shop

Accepting  
Donations

With Spring just around the corner, the Nearly New Shop is looking forward to storing the winter coats and displaying their summer clothes. Nearly New's current wish list includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Baby clothes
- Double and queen size comforters
- Household such as kitchen items like pots and pans, small side lamps, knickknacks
- Kids' toys and crafts
- Spring and Summer wear (please no rips or stains)

**\$100 Challenge!** What can you do with \$100 from our Outreach Fund, to make a difference in someone's life? Talk to Brad about picking up your \$100 and then report back, on how you made difference in someone's life.

## Giving with Intention...

**Many thanks to those who continue to fill our grocery cart at the front door of the church!** Please note that if you cannot leave your items in the shopping cart we would ask that you donate them directly to the food bank. Ongoing staples that are required are school snacks, cereal, peanut butter, any and all hygiene products, toilet paper, Kleenex, canned meats, jam. *Please note that if you make a monetary donation to The Food Hub, your tax receipt for a Food Bank donation will come directly from NeighbourLink.*



Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 12:30-2:30 pm

Join us for a fun, hands-on cooking class where we will prepare delicious nourishing bowls and no-bake energy bites. Learn simple, healthy recipes that are perfect for everyday meals and snacks. This main course recipe features meat but it is designed for versatility. We will cover easy substitutions for **vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free** participants.

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# MARCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Coffee Bar opens 10 am Worship Service	2	3 12:30-2:30 pm Rainbow Seniors in the Studio	4 1 pm Coffee with Brad 1 pm Quilting 7 pm Choir practice	5 1-2:30 pm Lenten Study in the Sanctuary	6 World Day of Prayer 2 pm Willowdale Christian Reformed Church 70 Hilda Avenue	7
8 9:30 am Coffee Bar opens 10 am Worship Service International Women's Day Daylight Savings Time begins	9	10 12:30-2:30 pm Rainbow Seniors in the Studio	11 1 pm Coffee with Brad 1 pm Quilting 7 pm Choir practice	12 1-2:30 pm Lenten Study in the Sanctuary	13	14 National Affirming/PIE Day
15 9:30 am Coffee Bar opens 10 am Worship Service	16	17 12:30-2:30 pm Rainbow Seniors in the Studio	18 1 pm Coffee with Brad 1 pm Quilting 7 pm Choir practice	19 1-2:30 pm Lenten Study in the Sanctuary	20	21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
22 9:30 am Coffee Bar opens 10 am Worship Service Council meeting following the Service	23	24 12:30-2:30 pm Rainbow Seniors in the Studio	25 1 pm Coffee with Brad 1 pm Quilting 7 pm Choir practice	26 1-2:30 pm Lenten Study 2:30 pm Service at Chartwell Lansing 7:15 pm Author Talk in the Studio	27	28
29 9:30 am Coffee Bar opens 10 am Worship Service Palm Sunday	30	31 12:30-2:30 pm Rainbow Seniors in the Studio				



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