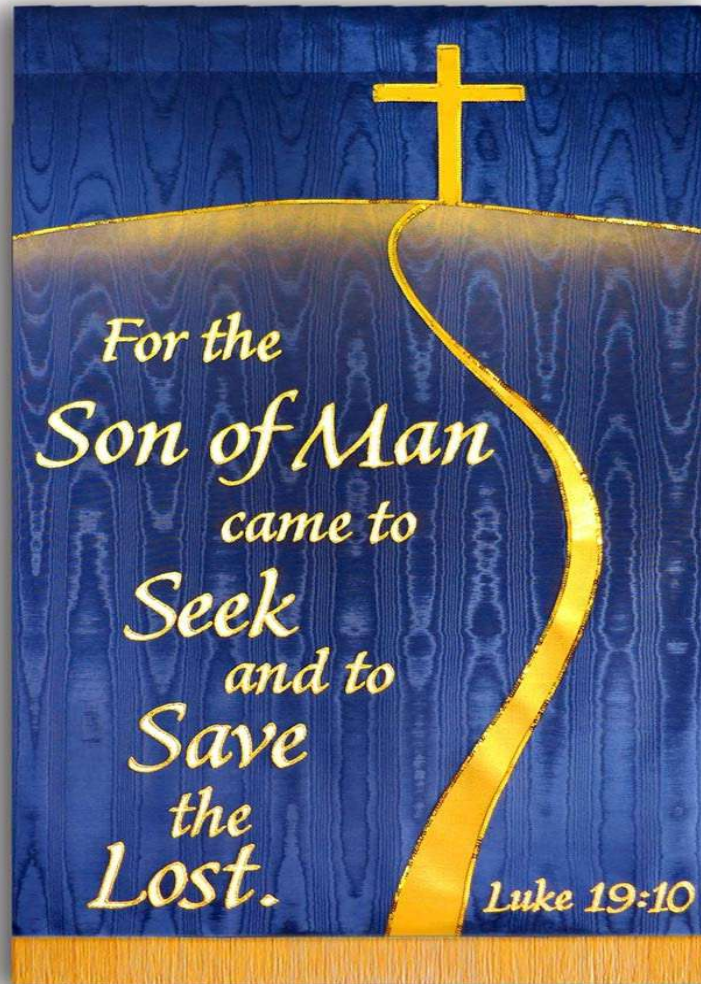




St. Davids-Queenston **United Church**

March 22, 2026, Fifth Sunday in Lent 2026



St. Davids-Queenston United Church

1453 York Road, St. Davids, Ontario L0S 1P0

Phone: 905-262-5242 www.stdavids-queenstonuc.ca

Rev. YongSeok Baek sdqminister@gmail.com

Voluntary Associate Minister: **Rev. Doug Jones**

Organist and Choir Director: **Lisa Brillon**

Sunday school Teachers: **Sue Foss**

Admin Secretary: **Kathleen Elliott** sdqsecretary@bellnet.ca

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Land Acknowledgement

There were people here long before we came to live on this land as settlers and descendants of settlers. We acknowledge these many Nations of Indigenous people who first lived and currently live here. We give thanks to this land, the territory(s) of these Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We do this to acknowledge our responsibility to enhance and promote peace among all who now share this land, as well as good stewardship of it and its resources.

** Please stand, as you are able*

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS)

*OPENING HYMN: # VU 333 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(Lighting the Christ candle) As we step into the 5th week of the Lenten season, we ask not for a gentle dawn, but for a bolt of lightning.

Let it be the kind of light that doesn't just illuminate but sees us. The kind of light that finds us in our hiding places, in our comfort zones, and in the stories, we keep telling ourselves.

Let this lightning find us and refuse to let us go. Let it crack open what is ready to be changed and electrify what has grown still.

We are ready to be found. We are ready to be transformed.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to the wellspring of our salvation!

Come to the place where the water of life runs free!

Come to the well, where you may set your burdens down and draw up refreshment, for mind and for soul.

Come, people of God, to this place of worship.

Come and praise the God who gave us life!

GATHERING PRAYER

Loving God, your location is a running question in the scriptures.

In the creation stories, you are outside of your creation.

Tradition holds that you are high up, above, a mystery beyond human control, and a God who may graciously choose to come down.

The people of God located you in a tent of meeting, in the Ark of the Covenant, and following that, in the temple.

Christians believe you are found in the life and work of Jesus Christ. We call our building the house of God.

Others find you and your Spirit in the vastness and the immediacy of the natural world.

In worship this morning, we do not ask for a single answer;

we ask for your divine, loving presence embracing us, loving us, forgiving us, and guiding us. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung) #960

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

**Welcoming all to: Gather in God's Grace,
Grow in Christian Faith and
Go in Community Service.**

SACRED MUSIC: "Nearer My God to Thee"

LEARN TOGETHER: #MV188 "I Thank You, Thank You, Jesus"

I thank you, thank you, Jesus (3X) in my heart. (repeat)

I love you, love you, Jesus, (3X) in my heart. (repeat)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 16:11-13

Luke 19:1-10

*This is the Word of God for the people of God **Thanks be to God!***

SERMON: "The Descent of Grace: Climbing Down to Meet Jesus"

*HYMN # VU 593 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

PRAYER FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH:

OFFERTORY HYMN: VU 236 "Now Thank We All Our God" v 1

*Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

OFFERING PRAYER:

**May these gifts of talent, time, and money bring encouragement, strength,
and peace to each other and to all who need care, O God, and may our
gifts, in some small way, bear witness to our love. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN # VU 614 "In Suffering Love"

COMMISSIONING AND VESPER

As we travel this Lenten journey, we know that God leads and guides us.

**As we travel this Lenten journey, we notice the stories of Jesus making
choices for life and ministry.**

As we travel this Lenten journey, we dream and work with the Spirit for a world
where peace and harmony are restored.

We leave this place in peace, going to share the love of God. Amen.

*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 he 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. Amen*

* PIANO POSTLUDE



**Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the CE hall following the
Worship service this morning.**

Thank You to **Florence Turner** for being our greeter, to **Valerie Zuk** for being our worship leader, to **Lisa Brillon** and the choir for their musical contribution, to **Enoch Cho** for leading our Sunday School leader, to the **UCW Ladies** for preparing coffee and goodies for our coffee hour and to **Allen Zhang/Bill Utting/Steve Hardaker** for livestreaming our Worship Service.

Prayers have been requested for Rakseon Baek (백락선), Cecile Peters, Sue Foss, Jill Dill, Bill Utting, Dianne Bergsma, George Dunn, Bob Kerr, Jim Griffiths, Ivy Evans, Roy & Jennie Harwood, Ginny Slingerland, Elizabeth Whan, John & Eleanor Macdonald's daughter - Kirstie Duarte, Marilyn Staines in palliative care & her son, David and Anthony Logan Siconolfi.

Continuing prayers have been requested for Rev. Doug Jones, Matt Jones, Marcia Tyrell, Paula Fisher and Jennifer Fulton.

"If two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Matthew 18:19-20 NIV

Lent in 2026 February 18 ~ April 4

Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.



- Mar. 29 - Palm Sunday
- April 2nd- 7pm, Maundy Thursday (hand washing) Service
- April 3rd - 10:30am, Good Friday Service
- April 5th - Easter Sunday

Lenten Bible Reading Challenge: Journey to the Cross: To make the 2026 Lenten season more meaningful, our church is launching the "**Lenten Bible Reading Plan: Journey to the Cross.**" We invite you to join this challenge to deeply meditate on the life of Jesus and experience spiritual growth during this sacred season. Pick up your reading plan in the narthex. We look forward to your active participation!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Ian Kirby Smith's funeral is on March 28, 1:00 p.m. at Grace United Church in Dunnville. Rev. Kirby Smith served Grace United Church from 1991 to 2002 and also served Bethany United Church in Attercliffe Station.

Easter Food Drive: For neighbours in need, please consider dropping a donation into the bin at the front door.

CPR Training is available free of charge at Fenwick United Church on April 25 from 9:30 to 11:30AM. RSVP required to Sharon, ssvob@vaxxine.com

150th Anniversary Service for Westminster United Church: Sunday, April 26, United Church Moderator, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath will be at Westminster United Church (180 Queenston Street, St. Catharines, Ontario) to deliver the sermon as they celebrate their 150th Anniversary. The service will begin at 10:00AM and will be available in person and online. Everyone is welcome. The livestream feed can be found on the homepage of Westminster's website: westminsterunitedchurch.org

Birthday Cake next week. We hope you can join us as we celebrate March birthdays.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven to
 2 Come, al - might - ty to de - li - ver, let us all thy
 3 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 grace re - ceive, sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be, let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com -
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways
 ly re - stored in thee, changed from glo - ry in - to

pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art, vis - it
 bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and
 glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we

us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 praise thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

VU #593, Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love”

(Refrain) Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
Show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.

Neighbours are rich and poor,
Varied in colour and race,
Neighbours are near and far away.

These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love,
All are neighbours to us and you.

Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with you.”

VU #614, In Suffering Love

In suffering love the thread of life is woven through our care,
for God is with us, not alone our pain and toil we bear. 2

There is a rock, a place secure within the storm's cold blast;
concealed within the suffering night God's covenant stands fast. 3

In love's deep womb our fears are held; there God's rich tears are sown and
bring to birth, in hope newborn, the strength to journey on.

Now to our hearts your joy commit, into our hands your pain; so send us out to
touch the world with blessings in your name.

In suffering love our God comes now, hope's vision born in gloom; with tears and
laughter shared and blessed the desert yet will bloom.