Oromocto Pastoral Charge

The United Church of Canada February 4, 2024

Please Stand as you are able, sit as you prefer
Greeting and Lighting of the Christ Candle

*Introit: I am the Light of the World VU 87 vs 2

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn Come and Find the Quiet Center VU 374

Call to Worship

God cares beyond our imagining; God has staying power that never fades; God gives power to the weak and strengthens the powerless.

Nothing is beyond those who trust God. Weakness and exhaustion are facts of life; the young and fit eventually tire.

But those who trust in God will renew their strength.

Like an eagle rising in the sky, like a marathon runner at peak performance, nothing will stand in their way.

Tiredness and weakness are not an option!

Prayer of the Day

Our times are shadowed by terror, violence, and greed.

Dawning Light, we praise you!

Our church is shadowed by uncertainty, fear, and apathy.

Dawning Light, we praise you!

Our lives are threatened by insecurity, selfishness, and change.

Dawning Light, we praise you!

Living God, Dawning Light, for our time, our church, and ourselves,

for the gift of Jesus, reflecting your light, we praise you. Amen.

Our Minister, **Reverend Lori Beth Sheffield-Bowles**, is in her Office this week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9-12, Thursday or by appointment and chance. She is available outside of these hours by chance or by appointment. Please note these hours may change due to weather or urgent pastoral care needs. Rev. Lori Beth can be reached in the following ways:

Email: reverend.loribeth@gmail.com

Office Phone: 357-3423

Cell Phone: 262-6752

Home Phone: 454-6752

If you know of someone who is ill, in hospital or who would like a visit from the Minister, please talk to Reverend Lori Beth.

Next Week's Scripture:

We follow the Revised Common Lectionary for our services. Our service next week will be based on the following scripture: 2 Kings 2:1–12, Psalm 50:1–6 (VU p. 775), 2 Corinthians 4:3–6, Mark 9:2–9

The Season of Lent starts on February 14th.

We will start a Lenten Bible Study called "Have A Beautiful, Terrible Lent" on February 13th at 10 a.m. It will be based on the work of Kate Bowler called "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day". The book is not required, just bring yourself, your Bible and a coffee/tea if you like.

-3-

* Hymn Tell Me the Stories of Jesus VU 357

Time For All Ages

Power of Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture

Isaiah 40:21-31

Mark 1:29-39

Bruce Parks

*Hymn I Have Called You By Your Name MV 161

Message: Hope?

Offertory

*Dedication Verse VU 55 (vs 4)

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

Offertory Prayer (Responsive)

May these gifts be the means by which many persons come alive.

The sick receive wholeness; the bereaved receive comfort; the downtrodden find a common purpose; the refugee finds a home.

Your gifts will be truly blessed, as you go with them to bring life.

God be praised! Amen.

Our Prayers of Thanks and Concern

*Hymn I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry VU 644

Commissioning and Blessing

Go from the church as committed disciples of Jesus Christ. We are ready to learn and to grow in the faith; we are ready to serve in the church; we are ready to proclaim the Good News in word and deed;

we are ready to live out our Christian values and to see Christ in those we meet.

Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

*Musical Benediction Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MV 220

Hope shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the light of lights,
And illumine the pathway home.