

Carlisle/Kilbride United Church

March 8, 2026

Lent 3

Kilbride 9:30 am, Carlisle 11:00 am

Minister: **Rev. M. Gayle MacDonald**

Email: mgmacd@gmail.com; cell: 289-442-8420

Music Leader: **Dr. Heather Olaveson**

Office Administrator: **Andrea Osterroth McRae**

Office: 905-689-8630

*Those who wish to do so are invited to stand for the Hymns and the Sending Forth/Benediction. Likewise, those who wish to do so are invited to respond aloud where indicated by **bold print**.*

Welcome



Acknowledgement of Land

As we worship God, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of

(Kilbride: the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, Neutral, Anishinaabe, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),

(Carlisle: the Neutral, Haudenosaunee, Anishinabek, and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),

who continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work to right the wrongs of the past and present.

The Life and Work of the Church

Learn a New Hymn: TLUS 61 – Are You Lost?

A hymnist and pastor serving in the United Church of Christ, Hannah C. Brown penned these words in 1997. As she states on her blog, "We live in a time of great division, conflict, cruelty, and loneliness. The work of Love is a work of binding up and joining together, repair and reconnection. This text speaks to us in our loneliness and longing for a better way of life together." In the new UCC hymnal, Brown's lyrics are paired with Sally Ann Morris' tune JOEL, which is played on piano in the following video. [Healing river of the Spirit - music S A Morris - words R C Duck - tune Joel](#)

- 1 Are you lost among earth's peoples,
wand'ring cold and all alone?
Do you wonder if you're cherished?
Do you wonder if you're known?
Love will bind us as a fibre,

washed and carded, spun and wound,
knit together as a blanket,
warmed and welcomed, sought and found.

2 Are you bruised by hurt and hardship,
strained by wrongs or racked by need?
Do you tire of endless waiting
for the world to free and feed?
Love will join us as a body
with the strength and means to mend;
ev'ry member bears a treasure
on which all of us depend.

3 Are you hoping for a future
that is better than our past?
Are you yearning for communion
where the first are welcomed last?
Love delights in all our difference,
teaching justice and respect,
calling souls and skills and powers
to repair and reconnect.

4 In our wilderness of people
let us seek the common good.
In our discord and divisions
hearts can still be understood.
Love is with us when we're working,
turning strangers into kin.
Love invites us and unites us
to be better than we've been.

Lighting of the Lent Candles

Gathering Song: VU 121 – Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (Lent verses: General
& 3rd Sunday)

Marty Haugen's haunting 1984 hymn gets its unique sound from being written not in a typical major or minor key, but rather in the Dorian mode. It is performed by Catherine Weber (voice) and Carol Churchill (piano) for Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church in Washington.

[ELW 334 "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" Virtual Hymn Lutheran Hymn - Samm Hills Worship](#)

G. Light of life beyond conceiving,

mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing,
give us faith to live your word,
give us faith to live your word.

3rd Living Water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole,
flow in us and make us whole.

Call to Worship: VU 814 – Psalm 95:1-7 (Part One)

Opening Prayer: *based on Exodus 17:1-7*
God of mercy, fountain of loving care,
wellspring of blessing and source of our hope:
**help us to break through
the dry surface of our parched lives.**
Help us to find the life that flows beneath,
quietly, deeply, cool with refreshment –
**that living water for our souls
that is the Spirit of Christ your Beloved.**
Rise up and flood with loving care
**every withered life and every heart
that thirsts for you. Amen.**
(written Rod Syke in Gathering/LE – 2017)

Lent Lament:

Sung Lament: TLUS 89 – Our Tears Falling Down

Paul M. Vasile's hymn is arranged and performed by Lonnie Delisle, a Vancouver composer, arranger, choral director, and musician. The Greek phrase "kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy," is the common title of a significant liturgical prayer that often opens Catholic and Lutheran Mass settings and litanies.

[Our Tears, Falling Down Like Rain | by Paul M. Vasile, arranged by Lonnie Delisle](#)

Our tears, falling down like rain to the ground
will water seeds of change.
Kyrie, kyrie, kyrie, kyrie,
kyrie eleison.

(Silence for personal laments or to lament situations in life or the world)

Extinguishing Candles

Sung Response: TLUS 89 – Our Tears Falling Down

[Our Tears, Falling Down Like Rain | by Paul M. Vasile, arranged by Lonnie Delisle](#)

Our tears, falling down like rain to the ground
will water seeds of change.
Let it be, let it be, let it be,
let it be, O let it be.

Prayer for Illumination:

As our ears absorb the words we hear, we ask this question: what is it, O God, you wish us to understand about the far-off world of our traditional writings? Speak to our hearts as we read, listen, and reflect. Amen.

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7 – *Water from the rock*

17:1 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

17:2 The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

17:3 But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

17:4 So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

17:5 The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go.

17:6 I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

17:7 He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Response: VU 814 – Psalm 95:8-11 (Part Two)

Gospel: John 4:5-42 – *The woman at the well*

4:5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.

4:6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

4:7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
4:8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)
4:9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)
4:10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
4:11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"
4:12 Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"
4:13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
4:14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."
4:15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."
4:16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."
4:17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'
4:18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"
4:19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.
4:20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."
4:21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
4:22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.
4:23 But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.
4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
4:25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."
4:26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."
4:27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"
4:28 Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,
4:29 "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"
4:30 They left the city and were on their way to him.
4:31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."
4:32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

4:33 So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"

4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.

4:35 Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.

4:36 The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

4:37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'

4:38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour."

4:39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."

4:40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.

4:41 And many more believed because of his word.

4:42 They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

Reflection

Sing a New Hymn: TLUS 61 – Are You Lost?

[Healing river of the Spirit - music S A Morris - words R C Duck - tune Joel](#)

[Carlisle] Mission & Service

Offertory Prayer

Offertory: VU 218 – We Praise You, O God (v. 1)

Words: Julia Cory 1902 alt; Music: Netherlands melody 1626; harm. Eduard Kremser 1877; desc. Scott Withrow 1980

Accompanied by organist Ryan Jackson, the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Virtual Choir performs Julia Cory's 1902 hymn, including a wonderful third-verse descant.

[Hymn – We Praise You, O God](#)

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 651 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

In this recording, William Williams' 1745 (originally Welsh) lyrics are given new life via Jeremy Casella's contemporary musical arrangement. An American singer-songwriter and worship leader, Casella leads the performance on guitar and vocals and is accompanied by Sandra McCracken (background vocals), Paul Nelson (cello), and Tim Nicholson (piano) at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah | Jeremy Casella

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Commissioning & Benediction

Sung Sending Forth: VU 108 – Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights (vv. 1 & 4)

In this lyric video Crystal Schau sings James Gertmenian's 1993 Lenten hymn, accompanied by Lynne Mavins on organ. Schau and Mavins are part of the Music Ministry team of Transcona Memorial United Church in Winnipeg.

[Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights](#)

- 1 Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,

where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.

- 4 And though the road is hard and steep,
the Spirit ever calls us on
through Calvary's dying, dark and deep,
until we see the coming Dawn.

Online Postlude: Adagio in G Minor

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma launched his [#SongsOfComfort](#) project at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic "to provide comfort in a time of anxiety and fear. The project inspired thousands of people around the world to upload their own songs of comfort in the months that followed." In this video, Yo-Yo Ma performs the melody from the famous Adagio in G Minor for strings and organ, attributed to Italian Baroque composer Tomaso Giovanni Albinoni (1671-1751) and later discovered to be by 20th-century musicologist and Albinoni biographer Remo Giazotto.

[#SongsOfComfort: Albinoni's Adagio in G Minor](#)