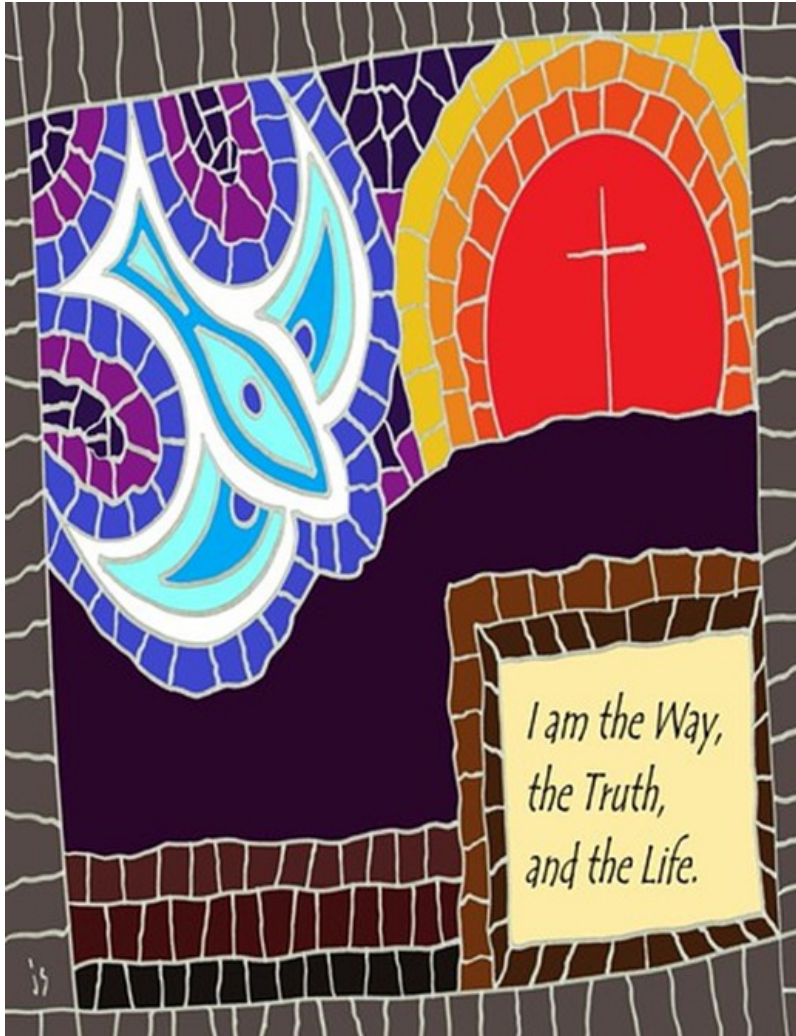


Carlisle/Kilbride United Church
May 03, 2026 – Easter 2
Kilbride 9:30 am, Carlisle 11:00 am



Prayer Before Worship or For Use at Home

*We come to you with hungry hearts, waiting to be filled:
with a sense of your presence;
with the touch of your spirit;
with new energy for service.
Come to us, we pray.
Be with us. Touch us.
Empower us as your people.*



*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 the 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

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(mgm)*

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

The Spirit of Christ is with us.

The light in me recognizes the light in you.

The Light of Christ is in our midst.

Centring Music: MV 7 – Gather Us In (x2)

Accompanied by Susan Reininger on piano, Rev. Lefneski and Debbie Roy from Emmanuel United in Cowansville, Québec, sing David Hann's 2005 hymn.

[Gather Us In - Hymn](#)

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, gather us in,

ground us, ground us in you.

Call to Worship:

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

inviting us to worship.

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

inviting us by love.

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

calling us by name,

calling us to grow in faith,

calling us to be made new.

We come to worship in this season of the Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Prayer:

O Holy Spirit, Breath of God, blow in our lives this day. Fill us with the freshness of your living love.

Cleanse and renew us that we might go from this place, ready to be your people in the world. Amen.

Hymn: MV 142 – Oh a Song Must Rise

Words and Music: Paul B. Svenson, 1995; arr. Bryn Nixon 2006

Paul Svenson's jazzy hymn is performed by the choir of Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto. MCC Toronto is both a church and a human rights centre rooted in the 2SLGBTQ+ community and deeply committed to social justice. It is the 2001 site of the world's first legal same-sex marriages, an historic milestone that is currently being celebrated with MCC Toronto's year-long campaign "25 Years of Affirming Love."

[A Song Must Rise - Prelude 2020-01-12](#)

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

Oh a song must rise once again.

*Singing out God's praises and glory,
the faithful voices blend,*

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

1 From the mountains to the valleys,
from the desert to the sea,
a song must rise once again.
From the voices of our leaders,
the voice of you and me,
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R

2 From poverty and riches,
from the voice of young and old,
a song must rise once again.
From the free and the imprisoned,
the timid and the bold,
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R

3 From every house of worship,
in every faith and tongue,
a song must rise once again.
From the villages and cities
a new song must be sung,
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R

Prayer for Grace:

(written by Peter Chynoweth in Gathering/LE -2026, p. 44, used with permission)

In the morning of a brightening season, we have come to sing and share and pray our gratitude and our joy, our hope and our excitement, our mindfulness and our peace. We have also come with baggage: things we couldn't leave behind, but wish we could; things we wish we could have brought, but couldn't; feelings that are separating us

from our own spirits and the spirit we find in this place; thoughts of what we could be doing instead; wonderings if this time will be up to the promise that is made.

Free us from this baggage, O God. Let it fall away that we can come into your presence without the weight of care, guilt, reluctance, and regret. Let us be open to the power of your challenge and the grace of your care as we rest and reflect in this silence. . . .

(a time of silent prayer)

Amen.

Assurance of Grace:

(written by Kate Crawford in Gathering/LE -2026, p. 45, used with permission, adapted)

Now receive the good news!

God breaks down the tentative nature of our generosity, and the partial nature of our commitment, and the fragile nature of our hope, through the power of Christ's spirit among us. For this and for all God's mercies to us, thanks be to God! Amen.

Sung Response: MV 8 (v. 1) – And On This Path

Words: Lynn Bauman; Music: Linnea Good 2003

This lyric video accompanies a recording by St Paul's United Church Choirs in Edmonton, Alberta, under the direction of Joan Townend. The lyricist, Lynn Bauman (b. 1942), is also an author, publishing partner, worship leader, and director of the Praxis Retreat and Learning Center in Texas, all centred around spirituality and contemplative wisdom. Many of Bauman's hymns can be found in his collection *Ancient Songs Sung Anew: The Psalms as Poetry*.

[And On This Path Hymn Lyric Video](#)

1 And on this path,
 the gates of holiness are open wide,
 and on this path,
 the gates of holiness are open wide,
 and on this path,
 the gates of holiness are open wide!
 Open wide! Open wide!
 Open wide! The gates are open wide!

Prayer for Illumination: *(mgm)*

May the words we hear open our hearts to understanding, increase our faith, and inspire us in our living and in our doing. Amen.

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Epistle: 2 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn babies, you should long for the pure milk of God's word. It will help you grow up as believers. ³ You can do this now that you have tasted how good the Lord is.

⁴ Christ is the living Stone. People did not accept him, but God chose him. God places the highest value on him. ⁵ You also are like living stones. As you come to Christ, you are being built into a house for worship. There you will be holy priests. You will offer spiritual sacrifices. God will accept them because of what Jesus Christ has done. ⁶ In Scripture it says,

"Look! I am placing a stone in Zion.

It is a chosen and very valuable stone.

It is the most important stone in the building.

The one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame."

⁷ This stone is very valuable to you who believe. But to people who do not believe,

"The stone the builders did not accept
has become the most important stone of all."

⁸ And, "It is a stone that causes people to trip.

It is a rock that makes them fall."

They trip and fall because they do not obey the message. That is also what God planned for them.

⁹ But God chose you to be his people. You are royal priests. You are a holy nation. You are God's special treasure. You are all these things so that you can give him praise. God brought you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people. But now you are the people of God. Once you had not received mercy. But now you have received mercy.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

14:2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

14:4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."

14:5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

14:7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

14:8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.

14:12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

14:13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14:14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Response: For the words spoken among us, thanks be to God.

Reflection

Hymn: VU 368 (v. 1, 2, 5, 6) – Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

Words: Samuel Longfellow 1864; Music: Leighton George Hayne 1863

The Sanctuary Choir of First United Methodist in Houston, Texas, perform Samuel Longfellow's "Prayer for Inspiration," which was published in 1864 in the Unitarian hymnal *Hymns of the Spirit*. The younger brother of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Samuel Longfellow was a clergyman and hymnist from Portland, Maine. [Holy Spirit, Truth Divine UMH 465; FUMC Houston, 8/11/2024](#)

1 Holy Spirit, truth divine,
dawn upon this soul of mine.
Voice of God and inward light,
wake my Spirit, clear my sight.

2 Holy Spirit, love divine,
glow within this heart of mine.
Kindle every high desire,
purify me with your fire.

5 Holy Spirit, peace divine,
still this restless heart of mine.
Speak to calm this tossing sea,
grant me your tranquility.

6 Holy Spirit, joy divine,
gladden now this heart of mine.
In the desert ways I sing;
spring, O living water, spring!

Prayers of the People & Prayer of Jesus

Sing into prayer: VU 661 (v. 3) – Come to My Heart

Joe Pinson's 1979 hymn is performed as a vocal duet accompanied by guitar in this lyric video, which has been shared by Dunville Grace United in Newfoundland.

661 VU Come to my heart Lord Jesus

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
answer my prayer today.

Offering Prayer: (mgm)

With gratitude that we have the privilege of gathering on this morning, and thankful that we have gifts to give, we ask your blessing upon what we offer. May these gifts and our actions be in keeping with your vision for our world. Amen.

Offertory: MV 191 – What Can I Do?

Musicians of St Paul's United in Golden Valley, Ontario, perform a spirited arrangement of Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy's 2005 offertory. Pianist Christopher Moore certainly has fun at the keys!

What Can I Do

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Carlisle Choral Anthem: Rhythms of Spirit

Words and Music: Susan Lukey and David Robertson 2010, rev. 2025

Communion (Carlisle – see insert)

Hymn: VU 686 – God of Grace and God of Glory (tune: 651)

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick 1930, alt.; Music: Welsh traditional

This warm, expressive arrangement by Dan Forrest is performed by the Bel Canto Company at Edenton St United Methodist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. Although *Voices United* features a setting with the Welsh tune RHUDDLAN, the recordings I listened to this week use the listed alternate tune, CWM RHONDDA, which you will recognize from VU 651, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."

God of Grace and God of Glory - Dan Forrest

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.
- 3 Cure your children's warring madness,
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christ-like graces,
pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not them nor thee.

Commissioning & Benediction

Sung Sending Forth: MV 8 (v. 1) – And On This Path

Words: Lynn Bauman; Music: Linnea Good 2003

[And On This Path Hymn Lyric Video](#)

And on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path,
the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide!
Open wide! The gates are open wide!

Online Postlude: Come, My Way

The opening line of this hymn recalls John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life." Also known as "The Call," the hymn was written by George Herbert in 1633 and centuries later was beautifully set to music by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The arrangement in this video is by Edward A. David and performed by Fr. Austin Dominic Litke (voice), Fr. Bob Koopman (piano), and Leah Sedlacek (violin).

[BLACKFRIAR MUSIC: "Come, My Way"](#)



The Real Work
by Wendell Berry

It may be that when we no longer know what to do
we have come to our real work,
and that when we no longer know which way to go
we have come to our real journey.

The mind that is not baffled is not employed.
The impeded stream is the one that sings.