



# Mountainside United Church

*LENT V, Year B*  
**March 17, 2024**

## **Territorial Acknowledgement**

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinabeg and Kanien'kehá:ka nations. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous peoples whose presence marks this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

## **Prelude:**

Be Thou My Vision - Mark Hayes  
Piano: Alberto Santos

## **Holy Greeting**

The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

**And also with you!**

## **Hymn: MV#28**

*God of the Bible*

Voices: Leah Weitzner, Colleen Bartley,  
Noah Wright, John Johnston  
Piano: Alberto Santos

1. God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,  
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,  
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,  
freedom or prison, you are our home.

### **Refrain:**

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.  
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.

2. God in our struggles, God in our hunger,  
suffering with us, taking our part,  
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,  
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart. **R**

4. Not by your finger, not by your anger  
will our world order change in a day,  
but by your people, fearless and faithful,  
small paper lanterns, lighting the way. **R**

3. Those without status, those who are nothing,  
you have made royal, gifted with rights,  
chosen as partners, midwives of justice,  
birthing new systems, lighting new lights. **R**

5. Hope we must carry, shining and certain  
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,  
bonding us gladly one to the other.  
till our world changes, facing the Cross. **R**

**Opening Prayer:** ( An Irish Prayer adapted)

May your mornings bring joy, and your evenings bring peace.

**May your troubles grow few as your blessings increase.**

May the saddest day of your future be no worse than the happiest day of your past.

**May your hands be forever clasped in friendship and your hearts joined forever in love.**

Your lives are very special, and God has touched you in many ways.

**May God's blessings rest upon you and fill all your coming days.**

(silence)

God in your love, **Hear our prayer.**

**Amen**

**Hymn: VU# 148**

*Jesus, Remember Me*

Voices: Leah Weitzner, Colleen Bartley,

Noah Wright, John Johnston

Piano: Alberto Santos

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

**Hebrew Scripture : Jeremiah 34 : 31 = 34**

Reader:

Laura Dizon

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

This is the witness of your people Israel!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm 51:**

VU# 776,77, with sung refrain 1 (R)

Reader:

Laura Dizon

**Refrain: God, I call to you for help; in your mercy hear my prayer.**

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great kindness,

**in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.**

Wash away all my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

**For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is always before me. R**

Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight,

**so that you are justified in your sentence,**

**and blameless in your judgement.**

Guilty I have been from my birth,

a sinner from the time of my conception.

**But you desire truth in our inward being,**

**therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean,  
**wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.**  
Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness,  
**let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**  
Turn away your face from my sins,  
**and blot out all my iniquities. R**

Put a new heart in me, O God,  
**and give me again a constant spirit.**  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
**do not take your holy spirit from me.**  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.  
**Then I will teach transgressors your ways,**  
**and sinners will return to you.**  
O God, open my lips,  
**and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. R**

You desire no sacrifice, or I would give it;  
**you take no delight in burnt offerings.**  
The sacrifice you accept, O God, is a broken spirit;  
**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. R**

@Gospel:

**John 12: 20 - 33**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!  
**Write these words on our hearts dear God!**

Hymn: MV# 106

*I Am the Dream*

Voices: Leah Weitzner, Colleen Bartley, Noah Wright, John Johnston  
Piano: Alberto Santos

1. I am the dream and you are the dreamer.  
I am the song and you are the rhyme.  
You are the tune sung in every silence.  
You are the now in the endless stream of time.

2. I am the bell and you the silence.  
You are the yearning I cannot curtail.  
I am the blest and you the blessing.  
You are the wilds in which I lose my trail.

3. You are the word and I the echo.  
You are the leader and I am the led.  
You are the joy and I the laughter.  
You are the Rock on which I lay my head.

**Sermon:** *Having Seen Fire and Rain*

**Rev. Dr. Douglas Throop**

**Music for Spiritual Centering:**      Where All Charity and Love Are (Ubi Caritas) - Alan Bullard  
Voice: Lead Soloists of MUC  
Piano: Alberto Santos

### Meditative Prayer in Silence:

**The Prayer of Jesus**  
**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be thy name.**  
**Thy kingdom come,**  
**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread;**  
**and forgive us our trespasses,**  
**as we forgive those who trespass against us,**  
**and lead us not into temptation,**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
**and the power, and the glory,**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Hymn

**VU# 135 Beneath the Cross of Jesus**  
Voices: Leah Weitzner, Colleen  
Bartley, Noah Wright, John Johnston  
Piano: Alberto Santos

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty Rock  
within a weary land;  
a home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.

**2** Upon the cross of Jesus  
mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One  
who suffered there for me:  
and from my stricken heart with tears  
two wonders I confess,  
the wonders of redeeming love  
and my unworthiness.

**3** I take, O cross, thy shadow  
for my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss;  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.

## Benediction:

**Postlude:** Danny Boy (Londonderry Air) - Irish Traditional, arr. Paul Barton  
Piano: Alberto Santos

## **Reference and Information** **for the week of March 17, 2024**

- We Welcome you to join with us in Worship this morning on Zoom
- The MARCH 24 Palm Sunday Worship Service will be followed with a Potluck Birthday Lunch on Level One to celebrate with those who have a March Birthday. Contributions for the lunch are asked to arrive without added preparation needed - ready to serve.
- The Good Friday Service on March 29 will be at 7:30pm ON ZOOM.
- **MARCH 31** Easter Sunday Worship In Person BHC. Holy Communion. The bulletin will include names of those 'In Memory of '. Please send the name(s) of those you wish to be remembered accompanied by your name(s) so we can all share with you in memory.
- ANNUAL REPORTS in preparation for the AGM on May 5 are due now. The reports will be final and sent out electronically on APRIL 26. Requests for an individual printed copy should be sent in an email in order to have the copy available at the Sunday service on APRIL 28.
- **From your Outreach Committee:** It's that time again! We are excited to launch our **2024 Summer Camp Appeal**, in support of 3 Montreal organizations that run summer programs for children of low income families. We are hoping to maintain our usual level of giving again this year - \$1000 for each camp. **But we need your help!** You can contribute by cheque, or e-transfer (ask Gillian Johnston for details). Deadline for donations is Sunday, April 21st. Let's help make this a summer to remember for some very deserving children!
- The **Study Group** will meet every Thursday at 9:30am on Zoom. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact the Church Office at [admin@mountainsideunited.ca](mailto:admin@mountainsideunited.ca).
- Please consider giving to the church. Your gift will help serve our local community and far beyond. For that, we are grateful. You may leave your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you are at home, you can send a cheque, e-Transfer funds, or arrange for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). See details on giving at [www.mountainsideunited.ca](http://www.mountainsideunited.ca).

ZOOM LINK for this Sunday:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86704298230?pwd=SL6ibcyWzlTgWMFA7J2ZbIC0hiTmn0.1>

**In the event of poor reception, the Service may be viewed later on our YouTube Channel:**

**[https://www.youtube.com/live/\\_KrBjJNFt\\_U?feature=share](https://www.youtube.com/live/_KrBjJNFt_U?feature=share)**

**Please visit our website for regular updates and more information!**

[www.mountainsideunited.ca](http://www.mountainsideunited.ca)