

# Kingston Road United Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Canada

*March 10, 2024*  
*The 4th Sunday in Lent*



*Responses and Prayers in bold type are for congregational participation.*  
★ *Please stand if you are able.*

## **WE GATHER**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Darla Cameron

**ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

★ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

⋮ **HYMN**                      *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*

**VU 559**

★ **CALL TO CONFESSION**

★ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

★ **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, no matter how many fights you have wanted to pick with God,  
no matter how many times you have disagreed, raged,  
or clung to what you know instead of embracing holy change—  
know that nothing can separate you from God's love.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:  
God's love for us will always be deeper than we can imagine.  
We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven.  
Jesus still invites us to follow.

**Thanks be to God!**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND INVOCATION**

Rev. Debra

**PASSING THE PEACE** (*acknowledge those on line*)

May the peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

Please offer to one another signs of friendship and words of peace.

★ **SUNG RESPONSE**

*You Are Holy*

**MV 45**



**You are holy, you show us the way**

**You are holy, you show us the way (repeat)**

**You show us, you show us, you show us the way.**

**You show us, you show us, you show us the way. (repeat)**

**THEME CONVERSATION**

Rev. Debra

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Barb Whitney

★ **GOSPEL READING**

*Matthew 16:13-18, 21-23*

Barb Whitney

**CONTEMPORARY READING**

*february 16*

Barb Whitney

**RESPONSE**

Barb Whitney

For the Word of God in scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us

**Thanks be to God!**

**MEDITATIONS**

*Sanctified Art Questions & Prayers for Lent 4*

★ **HYMN**

*Sisters Let Us Walk Together*

**MV 179**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in a God of second chances,

**a God who sees through my stubbornness**

**and holds my fear with tenderness.**

I believe that this God of second chances

uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.

**Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.**

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

**This change is holy and important work, although challenging.**

**When fear and scarcity plague me,**

**or when the impossible feels out of reach,  
I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.**  
Thanks be to God for a love like that.  
**Amen.**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Loving Creator in whom is heaven,  
Hallowed by thy name,  
Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory  
Forever and ever. Amen.**

#### **ANTHEM**

*Lord Have Mercy*

Pepper Choplin

#### **OFFERING INVITATION**

#### **★ OFFERTORY SONG**

*We Are an Offering*

Dwight Liles



**We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours; we are an offering.**  
**All that we have, all that we are,  
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.**  
**(Tag) We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering,  
We are an offering.**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

We bring our gifts to you, God.

**Here is the work of our hands,  
and here is the love of our hearts.  
Here are our memories, our hopes,  
and the expression of our gratitude.**

May we put them to good use.

**Strengthen us as your church.  
Deepen our faith and our compassion.  
Sharpen the focus of our ministry**

that we too might do our part  
in bringing the kin-dom of God to birth.

★HYMN                      *Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights vs.1, 2,4,5*      **VU 108**

★ COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

★ SUNG RESPONSE

*Ameni*

**MV 219**

 **Ameni, ameni,  
Amen, amen, amen, ameni. (Repeat 3X)**

### Postlude

**Credits:** The liturgy this morning is adapted from “Adapted from a prayer  
by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC |sanctifiedart.org.”  
Our Psalm is taken from **Psalms for Praying**, Nan C Merrill, Continuum, N.Y. & London, 2008.  
The Poem, *February 16*, is found at [https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-  
blog/2024/3/4/selected-winter-morning-walks-by-ted-kooser](https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2024/3/4/selected-winter-morning-walks-by-ted-kooser)



**We are glad you have come! If you are  
a visitor, please sign our Guest Register  
and make yourself known to our  
minister, Rev. Debra. We welcome you  
to join with us for a time of  
refreshments and conversation.**

### **Staff**

Rev. Debra K. Schneider, Minister  
Eric MacKeracher, Music Director  
Alana Martin, Go Project  
Katie Vardy, Coordinator Children & Youth Ministries  
Amy McClelland, Youth Group Co-Leader  
Jennifer Martyn – Jr. Choir Director  
Elaine MacSween, Office Administrator  
Tim Holst & Martin Jaffray, Custodians

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## ***Life and Work of Our Church – March 10, 2024***



**Welcome to worship.** Today, we continue our Lenten Journey as we explore stories of Simon Peter as he and the other disciples accompany Jesus along the way toward Jerusalem and a cross. We look on as, week after week, Peter experiences one episode of spiritual whiplash after another—in this this week's edition being blessed and pronounced the rock upon which Christ will build his church one moment, and in the next being called Satan and a stumbling block to Jesus and his mission!

Those of us who seek to be followers of the risen Christ can find comfort in Peter's journey, for we too know what it means to have moments of brilliant insight and moments of falling flat on our faces! It has been said that we are spiritual beings having a human experience! Human, of course, comes from the word hummus... or of the earth. Humble is another word... and most of us miss the mark often enough to keep us that way! Join us as humbly and hopefully we continue to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

### **An Invitation for Today!**

As we gather for worship this week, I invite you to look around the sanctuary and see who is missing from our fellowship. There are folks who went missing during the Covid Pandemic who have never returned! Take a look around. Who is missing? Write down their names. Perhaps give them a call this afternoon! Let them know they are missed!

And for those of you who are joining us on line, please let us know you are doing so (send us a message at [kruc.info@gmail.com](mailto:kruc.info@gmail.com)). And also tell us if you would appreciate a phone call or visit from Rev. Debra, or from a member of the congregation. Let's strengthen our congregational connections with one another. Let's let one another know that we do care!

### **Good News Under Our Roof!**

#### **Save the Date!**

**Sunday, April 7th**

On the Sunday following Easter, we will share in a special communion service and we will honour the work of our KRU volunteers who provide and serve Friday lunches for guests from our community who are in need of friendship, hospitality and nourishment.

Following worship, we will share in an informal 'communion' in the shape of a finger food potluck lunch! Bring along plenty of your favourite tapas foods to share-- appetizers, mains or desserts-- and enjoy some quality time with the folks you worship with from week to week! We might have an opportunity to get acquainted with some of our Friday guests as well. Blessings and Peace, Rev. Debra

**Mindful Meditation with Kim Dunlop** Kim is leading Mindfulness Meditation practices each Monday, from 7 to 8 pm beginning Monday March 4 and running until April 29<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary.

**Copies of the Lenten Devotional Journal / Booklet by Sanctified Art** (which includes all the artwork, reflections, poetry, and space to journal) are available for you to at either door in the sanctuary. If you would like a hard copy of the Advent Devotional Journal put in the mail for you, please contact the office. **Daily Devotional cards** are also available at each door.

**Our Space Sharing Coordinator, Lois Maxwell** reported to the congregation at the AGM last Sunday that the Beaches Coop Playschool will no longer be in Bessie's Gym after June 2024. As a result we are looking for a new tenant(s) for this space as it will be a significant hit to our rental income. Here is the ad we are sharing in the community: **Space Available:** Kingston Road United Church (975 Kingston Road in the Beach) has 2800 sq. ft of accessible space available. This can include a kitchen and private bathroom. Rates to negotiated. Please contact: [kruspace@gmail.com](mailto:kruspace@gmail.com)

**Rivkah Unland:** As many of you know, Rivkah Unland, our former KRU minister, was diagnosed with cancer in early 2023 and is now undergoing further treatment. She would enjoy hearing from KRU friends through cards or email: [rivkahunland@hotmail.com](mailto:rivkahunland@hotmail.com) or 455704 45th Line RR5, Embro ON N0J 1J0

**Ushers / Counters Needed!** It was decided at Council on Wednesday evening that we should resume passing the offering plates. This was a practice that was discontinued due to COVID. We are in need of more volunteers to assist with this task, which includes greeting guests at the doors, passing the offering plates and counting the receipts. You would be on a team that is required 1 Sunday every 4<sup>th</sup> week. Many people are on PAR and/or make contributions via the KRUC Website so the count doesn't take long. You would be assisted by others on the team. Please speak to Ray Cockburn or Marg. Holst for more information.

**Please Keep Us In "Mind!"** KRUC has ongoing collection programs all year long. Every Sunday we welcome **non-perishable food donations** for our local food bank, Grace Pasco at Calvary Baptist Church on Main St. You will find a labelled container for each of the following items in the hall by the church office; **used stamps for the Leprosy Mission; used printer cartridges are recycled to Staples; used eye glasses** are greatly appreciated by our Friday lunch guests; and **used batteries** are recycled to Staples, **aluminum can tabs** are recycled to the March of Dimes, and **toiletries** are collected (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc.) and shared with our Friday lunch guests.