

The Fifth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2026

*Know, Grow together
in Faith*

Gathering Music

*“A Mighty Fortress is our
God” (VU # 262)*

*Designed
by
Wendy Wharton*

Welcome





Announcements

Prayer for the Lenten Candle

Lest we think that Lent is only a sombre time, let us remember that it is also a rich and abundant time.

Just as the desert is not a barren place but, in fact, a very fertile yet largely unknown place, Lent provides opportunities for us to see and experience incredible abundance and extravagance.

Too often, we miss these moments because they appear alongside difficulties and sadness.

(Extinguish the fifth candle.)

Prelude

Great
IS THY
Faithfulness

The text is written in a flowing, cursive script. 'Great' is on the top line, 'IS THY' is in smaller letters between the first and second lines, and 'Faithfulness' spans across the second and third lines. The ink has a shimmering, metallic gold texture. The background features several horizontal musical staff lines, some of which are partially obscured by the text.

Studio
Seck

à la Bach

Call to Worship

You enter into this place wondering where you will be taken this time around on the Lenten journey.

Yet we know that it is a safe place, a place of comfort.

You also know that this is a place of transformation. Yet you return.

Transformation is precisely who we are as a Church. We are not afraid.

How can you be so certain ?

We've travelled this path before. We know what it takes when times get tough.

You'll be challenged, questioned, backed into a corner...

But we will never be alone. Praise be to God !



Hymn VU # 508

1

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



3 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Just as I Am

Prayer of Confession

Part of our Lenten journey is coming to realise that we fall short of God's intention for us. Part of our journey, in the midst of any stress and uncertainty we feel, is realising that we need to stop and intentionally refocus on what is important and what is not. Let us come before God in confession, seeking to refocus our hearts. Let us pray.

God of life, we confess that all too often we spend too much energy on what is of no real importance. We confess the times when we forget what really matters. We confess that too often we ignore the signs of your presence that are all around us, that we fail to celebrate them. Call us once again to trust in you, God of life. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The Good News is that the power of death and despair is no match for the life-giving power of God. With God's power, even the driest of bones can spring to life and a desolate wasteland can blossom and flourish. We are a people who believe in life and hope.

**Thanks be to God, for this is indeed Good News.
Amen**



Time with the Young People

by Rev. Yun-Hee

Children Song

“Rise and Shine”



Refrain:

Rise and Shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Children of our God.

1 God said to Noah, “Theres’s gon-na be a
floddy, floddy (twice)

Get those children out of the muddy, muddy,”
Children of our God.

2 **So Noah, he built him, he built him an arky,
arky (twice)**

**Made it out of gopher barky, barky. Children
of our God.**

Refrain:

Rise and Shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Children of our God.

3

The animals they came in by two-zies, two-zies,
two-zies (twice)

Elephants and kangaroo-zies, roo-zies.

Children of our God.

Refrain:

Rise and Shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Children of our God.

4 It rained and poured for forty day-zies,
day-zies (twice)

Nearly drove those animals crazies, crazies.

Children of our God.

**5 Dove went out, to take a peeky, peeky
(twice)**

**Dove came back with twig in his beaky,
beaky. Children of our God.**

Refrain:

Rise and Shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory

Children of our God.

6 The animals, they came out in three-zies,
three-zies, three-zies (twice)

Must have been those birds and bee-zies,
bee-zies. Children of our God.

**7 This is the end, the end of our story, story
(twice)**

Everything is hunky-dory, dory.

Children of our God.

Musical Offering VU # 540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully

Offering Prayer

Generous God, we offer to you a portion of what you have given us: gifts of time, of talent, and of treasure, gifts that care for those of us too often on the margins, gifts to support our partners overseas and within Canada, gifts that seem small, but that have large effects in Jesus' name. Bless what we give for your purposes in the world, we pray. Amen.

(The children may now proceed with their guardians to have sharing time.)



Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected,

"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor ? It was worth a year's wages."

He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

We give thanks for inspiration.

Dialogue

“Two Voices” *Diane & Donna*



Choir Anthem

“How Deep the Peace” (MV # 95)

(sing Three times)

How deep the peace, the confidence,
Of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
Of those whose hearts are healed.

Introducing Myself

AI





Beautiful couple, Diane and Al



60th Anniversary of Al & Diane



Cleaning thoroughly ...
AI



Relaxing after hard work

Hymn VU # 670 (v. 1)

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night,
lead me on to the light:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.



HELLO

**GETTING TO KNOW
YOU MORE!!!**

Activity 1

Vida with Donna & Jan



Christmas Card Writing



Vida with Colleen & Sylvia



Hymn VU # 670 (v. 2)

2 When my way grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call,
hold my hand lest I fall:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Introducing Myself

Wendy W.





Duet Wendy & Colleen, Church's Anniversary



**Wendy
with the Choir**

She loves singing...



**Wendy
with the girls**

**St. Patrick's
Sunday
2026**

Hymn VU # 670 (v. 3)

3 When the darkness appears,
and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
at the river I stand,
guide my feet, hold my hand:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me
home.

Prayers of the People

O God, we weep for the world. It is filled with wars, conflicts, poverty and neglect, disease and disfigurement.

The Earth itself groans for release from climate change, overpopulation, and abuse. We weep with you, O God, as we cry for justice around the world.

O God, we weep for our local community and beyond. Because of fear, busyness, and apathy we often do not love our neighbours as ourselves.

We prefer privacy to compassion, and we live our lives in silent isolation, far from the suffering of others.

We weep with you, O God, as we cry for justice for our communities.

O God, we weep for our congregation.

We pray for those who are experiencing hardship, loss, illness, injury, and loneliness especially those we name now in our hearts.

May you help them to dwell in your Peace; grant them a gentle and steady recovery, and find a Hope in your Presence.

We weep with those who weep and may this compassion move us to seek justice for all people. Amen.

VU # 960 *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowéd 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 them that 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.

THE
LORD'S
PRAYER

1 Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail
not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain Great is thy faithfulness !
Great is thy faithfulness !
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath
provided
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me !

2 Summer and winter and springtime and
harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness !

Great is thy faithfulness !

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided

great is thy faithfulness, ever to me !

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide,
strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow -
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness !

Great is thy faithfulness !

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided

great is thy faithfulness, ever to me !

Blessing

As we travel this Lenten journey, we know that God leads and guides us.

As we travel this Lenten journey, we notice the stories of Jesus making choices for life and ministry.

As we travel this Lenten journey, we dream and work with the Spirit for a world where peace and harmony are restored.

**We leave this place in peace,
going to share the love of God.
Amen.**





Commissioning “Go Now in Peace”

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of
every day.*

*Go now in faith, steadfast strong
and true. Know God will guide you
in all you do.*

*Go now in love and show you
believe. Reach out to others so all
the world can see.*

*God will be there within, around,
above. Go now in peace, in faith
and in love.*

Amen, amen, amen.

**God, we thank you for being with us.
And
thank you Congregation for worshipping
today
in person and by Zoom !**



**Special thank you
for
your participation !**

*(adapted from the United Church of Canada's Resources,
'Gathering' and "Seasons of the Spirit".
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