



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church



March 3, 2024.

3rd Sunday in Lent

Our Mission Statement

"St. Andrew's United Church is a Christian Community of Faith
that shares Christ's love through
Worship, Fellowship, Spiritual Growth, and Outreach."



Christ, the water of life that never dries up!

<Photo Credit: Paul Rose>

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Sunday Worship Service

(March 3, 2024. 3rd Sunday in Lent)

Worship Leader: Rev. Eunky J
Organist & Choir Director: Lois McKinnon
Greeters: Jennifer Walker & Dana Gunn

* *In highlighted parts, let us present ourselves to God by standing or sitting freely according to each one's physical condition. **If there is no highlight, remain seated.***

We Gather To Worship

Music Prelude: *Organist*

Introit: *Choir – VU # 402, "We Are One" (vs. 1)*

Lighting the Christ Candle: Ferne MacLean

We reflect on our failure to obey God's call to justice and commitment and the walls that failure has built between ourselves and others and between ourselves and God through the Christ Candle.

We are called to a right relationship with God and with one another. Answering this call is not always easy. On the cross, Jesus calls us to a better world where everyone is loved and respected. As we look back on our Lenten journey, we draw closer to Christ's way of the Cross.
(Extinguish the third Lenten Candle)

Let us pray together:

**God, you have challenged us to follow your word and will.
Sometimes, we need to be angry at the injustice and wrong of
this world. Sometimes, we may experience hardships as we
follow the way of the cross. Give us the strength only to follow
you and serve one another with love. Amen.**

Lenten Tenebrae Litany, The Whole People of God

Welcome:

***Call to Worship:**

Come away and be still.

We come to worship God.

Come find rest for your weariness.

We come to worship God.

Come with your joy and sorrow.

We come to worship God.

In this time, in this place, God waits for us!

Let us worship together!

Wetaskiwin Writers, Gathering LE 2024

***Opening Hymn:** MV # 1, "Let Us Build A House" (vs. 1,2 &5)

***Opening Prayer:** *(together)*

Creator God, you call us from our busy lives
to find knowledge and rest in this holy place.
Center our spirits in your love.
Open our hearts to your transforming word,
for we are ready to realign our spirits,
remember your words,
and walk in your paths.
Guide us in wisdom and truth
as we seek to follow your word.
Amen.

Mary Petrina Boyd, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Prayer of Confession:

(Now, we are invited to reflect on ourselves before God. As the presider leads the prayer, join with your hearts in silence.)

We yearn to follow you
in the ways that lead to life and wholeness.
Yet it is hard to know if we are taking the right paths
on our journey of faith.
We worry that we will wander off,
even when we don't mean to.
May your love set us right, forgive our mistakes,
and show us where we should go.
During the past week,
we have not faithfully followed the way of Jesus' Cross.
Now, we confess our weakness in silence.
O God, renew us by your grace.
(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance:

Let us recall God's love and promises to us. God promises forgiveness,
that we may be blameless and innocent of any transgression. We are
God's beloved people.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Mary Petrina Boyd, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Sharing Time:

Hymn: VU # 642, "Be Thou My Vision" (vs. 1,2 &5)

(Children leave for Sunday school after hymn)

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of Illumination: Helen Jones

God's words are more precious than gold and sweeter than honey! Our hearts rejoice in their blessing! God's words are amazing gifts. God, give us hope and expectation in our hearts as we listen to your word. Amen.

Psalm 19

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 19 (VU pp. 740–741, refrain 2)

John 2:13–22

Ministry of Music: “Jesus Christ is Waiting”

Message:

We Respond to God's Word

Announcements: John Bosma

Invitation to the Offering:

The world tells us to hold on tight to money and resources for our own satisfaction and to consume more than we can afford. However, the way to follow Jesus is to choose to be willing to give what we have. When we give generously and spread love and mercy, the kingdom of God on this earth is fulfilled.

***Offering Hymn:** VU # 116, “Giver of the Perfect Gift” vs. 4

***Offering Prayer:** *(Together)*

**Holy One, you shape our lives with great beauty,
showing us paths that leads
to righteousness and blessing.**

**We bring these gifts with grateful hearts,
that you may use them to build your community
of justice and righteousness.**

**We offer you our very lives,
knowing that you will lead us in the path of holy service.
Amen.**

Mary Petrina Boyd, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer:

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- People on Prayer Book – John Bosma
- Peace for countries in wars
- Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (03 - 09 March 2024):
Ireland; United Kingdom: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

(Let us present ourselves to God, either standing up or sitting down)

***Blessing Hymn:** VU # 657, "He Leadth Me"

***Commissioning and Benediction:**

God's foolishness is wiser than we know,
and his weakness is stronger than anything we can imagine.

We will walk the way of the cross with joyful hearts.

**We, too, will share God's foolishness and weakness
rather than the world's quickness and cleverness.**

**(All) We will go out and become a channel of blessings
toward God's world and all creation.**

The grace of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of us, now and forever.

Amen.

***Choral Closing:** (Choir) MV # 212, "Sent Out In Jesus Name"

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Bible Readings for this week (Year B):

Exodus 20:1–17 / Psalm 19 / 1 Corinthians 1:18–25 /

John 2:13–22

- **Exodus 20:1–17:** How do you keep God as the central focus of your life? What draws you away from that focus?
- **Psalm 19:** In what ways do you experience God's laws as "sweeter . . . than honey"? When do you find yourself trying to resist God's laws?
- **1 Corinthians 1:18–25:** What does it mean to you that "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom"?
- **John 2:13–22:** How do you respond to Jesus' anger and actions in this reading? Do his actions fit with the way you generally picture Jesus?

The Upper Room, Disciplines 2024, www.upperroom.org/disciplines

Announcements

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

- **Lee & Carol Johnston on the death of Lee's sister, Joyce Potter**
- **Debbie & Cecil Stymiest and John & Brenda Jardine on the death of their sister-in-law, Connie Jardine.**

■ Memorials:

- In loving memory of **Joyce Potter**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Ferne & Ernie MacLean, Wayne & Liz Mullin, Margaret & John Glidden, Barbara Doucet, Helen Jones.
- In loving memory of **Joyce Potter**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Frances & Buddie Blakely.
- In loving memory of **Daryl Gammon**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Dennis & Judy Morrison, Joan & Brian Savoy, Ray & Janice Carter, Bob & Dorothy Wilson, Henry & Karen Wilson.
- In loving memory of **Daryl Gammon**, donations to the Community Kitchen have been received from Barbara Doucet, Anthony W. J. McLean and Georgia Halavrezos.
- In loving memory of **Bedstemor Moller**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from John Moller.
- In loving memory of **Garth Matchett**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Gail Arsenault.
- In loving memory of **Connie Jardine**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Hugh & Colleen Dickson, Margaret & John Glidden, Barbara Doucet, Helen Jones, Bob & Dorothy Wilson, Dave & Brenda Hicks, Henry & Karen Wilson.
- In loving memory of **Connie Jardine**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Frances & Buddie Blakely.
- In loving memory of **Callum MacPhee**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Bob & Ellen Marie Currie.
- In loving memory of **Callum MacPhee**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Frances & Buddie Blakely.
- In loving memory of **Linda Lyons**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Frances & Buddie Blakely.

■ Worship:

1. Welcome everyone who worships with us today.

- If you would like to become a new member, please leave a **'Welcome card'** on the offering plate.

2. 2024 Lenten Season:

- 1)"Lent 2024 40 Days Reflection" will be greatly useful to the daily Lenten Bible Study. (Read the given Bible verse each day. Read the

questions and meditate. End with your own prayer or the Lord's prayer.)

- 2) The theme of this year's National Ecumenical Lent Campaign is **"Give it up for the Earth!"** During this year's Lent, all United Churches will work toward "Act/Fast: Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis." (Fasting to reduce greenhouse gases, disposable products and food waste, fasting for recycling, fasting on media use, etc.)

3. **Worship Volunteers:**

- **Greeters: March 10** – Sam & Carolyn Shirley/**March 17** – Janice & Ray Carter/**March 24** – Bill & Evelyn Row
- **Sound System: March 3** – Ernie MacLean/**March 10** –Paul Rose/**March 17** – Brian Savoy
- **PowerPoint: March 3** – Karen Rose/**March 10** – Mary Reynolds/**March 17** – Barry Campbell
- **Offering Counters: March 3** – Karen Rose & Brian & Davida Adams/**March 10** – Betty MacDiarmid & Cynthia Duplessie/**March 17** – Brian Savoy & Barry Campbell

4. **If people are interested** in purchasing a church directory when they are printed, you may do so at a **price of \$20**. Please keep in mind that all the parishioners photographed by Universal Portrait Studios will receive a free copy of the directory.

■ **This Week:**

1. **Hymn Sing** at 10:50 a.m. Please have your favourite hymns selected from "Voices United."
2. **Church Office hours:**
Monday – 9-4; Tuesday 9-4; Wednesday 9-4; Thursday 9-4; Friday 9-4
3. **Weekly Collection;**
Collection on Sunday, Feb. 25th \$ 612.00
Weekly Par Collection \$ 1,286.77
Total for Week of Feb. 25th \$ 1,898.77
Amount needed weekly to meet Budget \$3,962.00

■ **Upcoming:**

1. **Tuesday, March 12th** at 1:30 p.m. – Faith & Spiritual Development Team meeting.
2. **St. Patrick's Tea and Brown Bag Auction** for all ladies of the congregation and you are invited to bring along friends with you. This will be happening on Saturday, March 16th starting at 2:00 p.m. (UCW members are reminded to bring in a couple auction items wrapped for this event.)
3. **Baked Haddock Supper on Thursday, March 21st from 4:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. (TAKE-OUT ONLY)** here at St. Andrew's United Church. We will serve baked haddock, mashed potatoes, peas, coleslaw and lemon cake for dessert. Tickets are \$15.00 a person with 100 tickets being sold.

■ Community Events:

- 1. Noon Lenten Services at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bushville at 11:45 a.m.**
 - **March 6th “Put God First in Your Family”** with Presider: Father David Rioux and Preacher: Rev. David Allan.
 - **March 13th “Put God Frist in Your Church”** with Presider: Mr. Merle Milson and Preacher: Father David Rioux.
 - **March 20th “Put God First in Your Finances”** with Presider: Rev. Deacon Ted Quann and Preacher: Pastor Ray Arsenault.

Lunch will be provided following with a suggest \$5.00 free-will offering. All proceeds will go to support “**Jeremy's Mission**”. Jeremey's Mission supports the homeless community by enabling “agape” love.
- 2. St Mary's Church is pleased to host Vienna- based pianist John Dupuis in concert at St. Mary's Church , Wednesday, April 10th, 7pm.** Advance tickets are \$30.00 adults, door \$35.00, students \$20.00, at door \$25.00. Tickets on sale at Brookdale Flower Shop, on line at eventbrite.ca or Susan at 506-622-1780. Reception to follow.
- 3. Annual Tartan Day Dinner/Concert, Sunday, April 14th, Kin Centre.** Tickets are \$40.00 each, by reservation only, call Susan 506-622-1780. Featuring music by The Villagers, Audrey McLaughlin, Dawn MacDonald Patterson, Norman Young & Friends, Melanie Ross Breen, Susan Butler, David Bunnell, Claire Murphy and Margaret & Ian Craig. Sponsored by the 67th Miramichi Folksong Festival and Highland Society of NB at Miramichi.
- 4. We have someone looking China Cups & Saucers** (if anyone has any they would like to give away) please contact Cynthia Duplessie and let her know at 506-773-5602.
- 5. Headstones Saddles made by Brenda Hicks or Jacky LeBreton** are now on sale by calling Brenda (773-6787) or Jacky (773-8002). They will also have them for sale each week at the Farmer's Market being held at the Curling Club.

■ Minister's Office:

1. Pastoral Care and Pastoral Visit

For pastoral care, contact Rev. JI or the church office.

E-mail: rev.ekji@gmail.com

**We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins
in loving memory of Shirley Traer (deceased January 5, 2017)
by her family.**

Online St. Andrew's United Church

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUnitedChurchMiramichi

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