



The Season of Lent

April 3, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

Lighting the Christ Candle

May this place and time be a haven of hope and hospitality,
for neighbour and stranger.

And may the light of love cast its beam beyond
to bless the world and all of creation.

Call to Worship

May we find courage here –

courage to follow our call, courage to live out our faith.

May we find hope here –

hope for a better world, hope that refuses to let us go.

May we find truth here –

truth that lives in sacred community,

truth that lives in ancient stories.

May we find all that we seek.

And in our seeking, may we know God. Amen.

Centering Hymn: I am the Dream (More Voices 106)

(Peggy Dayton on piano)

Words: S. Curtis Tufts, 2005 Music: Rick Gunn, 2006

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- 1 I am the dream and you the dreamer.
I am the song and you are the rhyme.
You are the tune sung in ev'ry 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.

Call to Confession

There are very few things as powerful as a group of people that admits they are not perfect, and asks for grace as they grow. Imagine what our world might be like if every institution had such a weekly rhythm?

Friends, we can light the way. Let us be brave in our truth-telling and honest in our confession. For we will always be met by grace.

Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession

Jesus of Nazareth,

we admit that often we tuck our faith into our pockets,

hiding in a place of comfort rather than proudly declaring;

yes we are Christians, yes we believe, yes this faith has changed me.

We are so afraid of offending others or embarrassing ourselves that

we have established rules: no faith at the dinner table, no faith in

politics, no faith with strangers. Forgive us for whispering when we

could be singing. Forgive us for staying quiet when we could be part

of rewriting the narrative. We want to be brave. We want to pour

out perfume over your feet. These things we pray, Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith, hear this good news:

Even in our silence, **God loves us.**

Even in our fear or shame, **God chooses us.**

Even when we sin, **God wraps us in grace.**

You are free – to be bold, to be brazen, to be exactly who God called you to be. **Thanks be to God, amen.**

Opening Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (Voices United 642, vs. 1, 3 & 5)

*Words: Irish ca. 8th century; trans. Mary Elizabeth Bryne 1905;
vers. Eleanor H. Hull 1912, alt. Music: Irish traditional melody*

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- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.
- 3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Scripture Readings

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 46:16-21

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-8

Reflection

Anthem: Above All

Words and Music by Paul Baloche and Lenny Leblanc

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Invitation to Offering

All that we have, all that we are, our feasting and our fasting, we offer to God. From PAR, on-line and in this basket, let us now present and dedicate our offerings.

Offering Prayer

**Lovingly and humbly applies,
the beautiful scent of Mary's perfumed oil filled the room.
With love, we humbly ask that our gifts may be a blessing
that travels far and wide. Amen.**

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

Gracious and loving God,
we pause to remember all the people and places
that our broken in our world, hear the prayers of our hearts (*pause*).
When we are overwhelmed by the needs of the world,
remind us that all of creation in yours and that your love is
everywhere, always, the source of life,
and your love is never exhausted,
and that you make all things new. Amen.

Video Presentation: Behold

The Work of the People; Music by Alana Levandoski

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in beauty-
beauty pulled into being by our Creator,
beauty that catches our breath,
beauty that turns us toward awe.

**I believe in courage –
courage to believe,
courage to stand up for the people we love,
courage to love without hesitation.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit
who prays for us when we cannot,
who is brave for us when we are not.

**I believe in Jesus Christ
who stood up for Mary,
who quieted the voice of critique,
who welcomed every bid for relationship.**

I believe in God.
I believe in God who believes in us.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn: Give Me Oil (Songs for a Gospel People, 130)

Words: Anon.; Music: trad.; arr. DN.; © A: SFAGP, 1987

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1 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
give me oil in my lamp, I pray;
give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
keep me burning till the break of day.

Refrain Sing hosannah! Sing hosannah!
Sing hosannah to the servant king.
Sing hosannah! Sing hosannah!
Sing hosannah let us sing.

2 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart, I pray;
give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
keep me praising till the break of day. *Refrain*

3 Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
give me peace in in my heart I pray;
give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
keep me loving till the break of day. *Refrain*

4 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray;
give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving till the break of day. *Refrain*

Benediction

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself-
go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

Postlude

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker
Music Leader – Lynn Dennis
Vocalists – Sam Boehner, Peggy Dayton, Lorne Holland,
Jo-Ann Hopkins and Alan Priestley
Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey
Scripture Reading – Melanie Styles
Spirit Kids Program – Leslie Moffat
Technical Support – Karen Clark and Jiemei Li
Greeters – Deanna Bertelsen and Christine Smith
Flowers for the service are offered by John and Pat MacLeod in
celebration of the life of their daughter Carolyn.