

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey."

# March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Lent 1

Congregational responses in bold.

## We Come Together

Prelude...
Greeting
Lenten Lights
Land Acknowledgement
Announcements

## Call to Worship:

One: Come and worship God, who is making all things new.

All: God has said, "I am the bread of life".
One: God has said, "I am the light of the world".

All: God has said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life".

One: And so, on this Lenten road,

All: we are fed, we are guided, and we are transformed,

One: as we edge our way, toward the new life of Easter.

Opening Prayer: (unison) God of love and light, we have traveled through the growing excitement of Advent, the season of waiting. We have walked in the hope of Christmas, the season of birth and brightness, and we have followed the light the wise ones once followed through the season of Epiphany. Today, as we begin a new journey, we look inward, only to discover your Spirit once again leading us. Bless this time of reflection, bless our growing in faith, and bless our journey with Jesus, as we walk side by side with your Son our Saviour, Amen.

**Hymn:** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

VU#375

**Prayer of Confession:** (Unison)

Gracious God, as we gather before you, we confess that, all too often, we look to heaven for glimpses of grace, moments of mercy, and justice for a bruised and breaking world; all the while forgetting that you have named us as light for this world and bearers of your grace. For moments we have strayed from the road, neglecting your ministry, forgive us. In what we have done and what we have left undone, forgive us. In our careless words, offered in disregard absent of doubt, forgive us. Grant us the courage to once again take up the road to which you call.

(Silence – Personal Confession)

**Assurance:** Friends, know that there is nothing that can ever keep us from the love of God. In our brokenness God mends, in our hurt God heals, and through grace, God continues to call us beloved. We are a loved people, and that love sets us free. **Amen.** 

### We Listen to the Word

### **Children's Time**

**Children's Time Prayer:** At the beginning of the path, dear God, let your voice be our guide, that we might hear it louder and clearer than any other voice outside. When we have a choice to make, let love be what we choose, so when we doubt or sometimes forget, we know that we follow you. Help us, like you did Jesus, to stand up for what we know: That your love follows this path with us, with wisdom for wherever we go. Amen.

**Hymn:** "When We Are Tested" **MV#65** 

Prayer for Understanding Reader: Marlene MacLeod

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4: 1-13

One: This is the Word of God spoken through the Gospel.

All: Bless this Word in our lives and through our living.

**Sermon** "Keeping It on the Road"

**Anthem** "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

## We Respond to the Word

**Invitation to the Offering:** As Jesus once did, we begin this new season on a road unsure of where it may lead. However, through the great grace of God we are not alone on this journey. Jesus joins us, our guide, our light, our life. In response to this great gift, we now offer ours. These are the gifts of our hearts given to the people, communities, and world you love beyond measure.

Offertory Prayer: (unison) Here, in these offerings, O God, we present to you the fruits of our labours, the gifts of our hearts, and the commitment of our calling as disciples of your Son. Bless what we offer and help us, in new an everbroadening ways, to follow where your Son may call and lead. Along with our gifts this day we also bring items of great need in our community. We pray for your blessing on these gifts and on those who receive them. May they warm, comfort and allow your love to be known by each of your beloved, Amen.

**Hymn:** "Jesus, Tempted in the Desert" **VU#115** 

Blessing: (unison) We go out now into this Lenten journey with the blessing of God surrounding us the care of the spirit enfolding us and the light of Jesus guiding and walking beside us this and every day, Amen.

**Extinguishing the Lenten Lights** 

#### **Postlude**

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**Ministers:** The Gathered Community

**Clergy:** The Rev. Scott Stuart, BA, MDiv.

**Music Ministry:** France Henriques

Office Administrator: Tracy Parrott

Wayne Surrett

**Custodian:** Wayne Surrette

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday – Friday, 9am - 3pm

## Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Mar 6 Erik, Mar 13 Debbie, Mar 20 Esther, Mar 27 Elizabeth Sound/Prompter operators for the coming weeks: Mar 6 Stephen, Mar 13 Tracy, Mar 20 Stephen, Mar 27 Tracy

## This Week's Events

| Monday    | 9:30am   | Tai Chi             | Church Hall |
|-----------|----------|---------------------|-------------|
|           | 11:30am  | Pastoral Care       | Boardroom   |
|           | 6:30pm   | Cubs                | Church Hall |
|           | 7:00pm   | Worship Comm        | Boardroom   |
| Tuesday   | 10:00am  | Craft Group         | Church Hall |
|           | 1:00pm   | Art Club            | Church Hall |
|           | 6:30pm   | Beavers             | Church Hall |
|           | 7-9pm    | Visioning Committee | Sanctuary   |
| Wednesday | 9:30am   | Tai Chi             | Church Hall |
| Thursday  | 6:15pm   | Brownies            | Church Hall |
| Friday    | 9:30am   | Tai Chi             | Church Hall |
| Saturday  | 10-12pm  | Tai Chi             | Church Hall |
| Sunday    | 6:30-8pm | Girl Guides         | Church Hall |