

# St. James United Church

March 17, 2013, 11 am

## Lent 5

Minister: Rev. Bill Bartlett  
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald  
C.E. Lay Minister: Susan Sheppard  
Organist/Choir Director: Dr. Philip Roberts  
Assistant Organist: Gillian Burry  
Choir: UCW  
Director: Doreen Brown

### Organ Prelude

### Welcome

**Introit:** Great Shepherd of Your People

### Call To Worship (responsive)

(L) We open our lives to God.

**(P) Our hearts are open.**

(L) We find the love of God.

**(P) Our hearts are full.**

(L) We come to worship.

**(P) All glory, praise, and honour be to God!**

### Prayer of Approach (unison)

O God, we come in worship, seeking your presence in our lives. There is much around us that is contradictory to your way of life for us. Many forces assail us; many things would tempt us from your presence. Open our hearts to hear your call; open our spirits to the power of your Holy Spirit. Equip us to go forth into the world to be your voice crying for justice and peace; through Jesus we pray. Amen.

**Commissioning:** (unison)

**May we be blessed on the journey that is ours to make: blessed with the spirit of Christ within us; blessed with sturdy companionship and great love; blessed with integrity of purpose to meet the challenges that are ours. May we make this journey knowing that we are not alone, that God is with us, and that God will never leave us nor forsake us.**

**Choral Benediction:** Peace Be With You

### Organ Postlude

Resources for the worship service printed with permission from *Gathering, Lent and Easter 2013, Worship for All Season II.*

**Ushers:** Ushering this week is provided by our youth group.

### Help Us To Help You

<input type="checkbox"/> Sickness	<input type="checkbox"/> Call from Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor
<input type="checkbox"/> Envelopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hymn:** New Every Morning 405

### Time with the Children

**Hymn:** Fairest Lord Jesus 341

### Offertory Invitation:

What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God? Let us fulfill this promise today by giving freely of our talents, time and monetary resources.

**Offering:** To the Desert Jesus Came

**Offertory Hymn:** In Gratitude and Humble Trust 544

### Offertory Prayer: (unison)

Gracious God, draw our hearts to you; guide our thinking, inspire our imaginations, free our fears, so that we may be more fully yours. Bless these gifts we bring today and those offered through PAR, that they may be used for the care and welfare of the world that you so love; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Life and Work at St James

#### Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Gracious God, you teach us to live in love with others and with you. Yet, we confess we do not take the time to learn and pray so that your ways might become our ways. We do not always put you first. We do not always act according to what we say we believe. We confess that when we do not reflect your love, we turn people away from your church and block others from seeing you. Forgive us and create in us new hearts and loving spirits, in the name of Jesus, whom we would follow and serve.

### Words of Assurance:

Sisters and brothers in Christ: know that God transforms our weakness and brokenness into faith, hope, and love. God empowers us to do and be more than we can ask or imagine. Receive God's forgiving love; come alive in Christ!

### The Word of God

**Hebrew Scripture:** Micah 6: 6-8

*What God Requires*

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 126 850

*Those who sow in tears, reap with joy.*

**Anthem:** The Boy of Galilee

**Gospel:** John 17: 13-26

*Jesus prays for his disciples.*

**Hymn:** Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love 574

**Sermon:** Oliver Dingwell

### Prayers of the People

#### The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn:** Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 681