

St. James United Church

February 14, 2016/Lent 1

Minister: Rev. Terrie Jackson
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Choir: Senior
Choir Director: Doreen Brown
Music Directors: Amy Dalziel
Sophia Werden Abrams

Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.
Please turn off your cell phone during the Service.

Musical Prelude

Welcome & Life & Work of St. James

Passing the Peace of Christ:

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

One: You are invited to share in signs of peace with your neighbours.

Introit: *May You Go Forth in Love* Choir

Call to Worship (responsive)

One: In this place, at this time, let God call out of us what is good. In this place, at this time, let us surrender what does harm. In this place, at this time, let us be filled with worship.

All: We are an offering to God. Let us present ourselves freely.

Opening Prayer: (together) As we begin this Lenten journey, Loving God, help us not to be distracted. Slow our pace so we can see and hear the Holy throughout our day. As we contemplate Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, let us be aware of the cycle of living, dying and rising again that unfolds by your grace in so many ways as we travel through life. May we see in these unfoldings the signs of your promise of steadfast love and eternal life. Amen.

Hymn: *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* 559

The Circle Song & Children's Time

Hymn: *Forty Days and Forty Nights* 114

Minute for Mission & Invitation to the Offering

Offering

Offertory Hymn: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery 121a v. 1
*From the dawning of creation, you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone,
make us turn to you alone.*

Offertory Prayer (together) Not by magic, but through the generosity of your people do stones become bread, O God. Not by gathering power to ourselves, but through serving others do we find the purpose of our lives. Not by upfront guarantees, but through trusting and risking do we live faithfully. Thank you God, for these wilderness lessons, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Readings
Hebrew Scripture: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Psalm: Psalm 291 Choir
Gospel: Luke 9: 28-36

Anthem

Sermon

Communion Hymn: *Eat This Bread and Never Hunger* 471

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: May the God of wilderness hopes be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us bring our hearts to God.

All: We offer them to God who fills them with life.

One: With songs on our lips and in our hearts, let us praise God.

All: We sing of what we believe, offering thanksgivings from our hearts.

One: From the deep wilderness of chaos, you brought forth the refuge of your heart...With old-timers as well as newcomers, with insiders and those who have stood outside we offer our songs of praise to you:

All: Holy, holy, holy are You, Giver of all goodness. Creation's heart overflows with joyous praise to you. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who is full of the Spirit. Hosanna in the highest!

One: Holy are You, God of mercy and hope... As we seek to believe in our hearts all He did and taught, as we try to confess his death and resurrection, we proclaim the word of faith that is so mysterious:



All: Christ died, trusting in your continued presence; Christ was raised, the first fruits of resurrection; Christ will come making no distinction, but welcoming all into that kingdom overflowing with mercy and hope.

One: Led by You, we come to this Table...Joining these and all our prayers into one using those ancient words, "Our Father..."

Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion

Prayer following Communion

Closing Hymn: *Jesus, Tempted in the Desert* 115

Blessing & Sending Forth

One: Now let us go from this place of haven God has given to us.

All: Led by the Spirit, we will go to be with those who are filled with fears, with hopes.

One: Now let us go from the refuge of the Table where we have tasted the first fruits of grace.

All: Led by the Spirit, we will go to feed those who hunger for companionship and life.

One: Now let us go into the world, living out God's reality that there is no distinction between people.

All: Led by the Spirit, let us go to serve our sisters and brothers who are our true family.

Musical Postlude

Ushering this week is provided by:

Ushers in Charge: Jack & Florence Head

Greeters: Ross & Betty Pilgrim

Ushers: Audrey & Cecil Templeman, Oliver Wellon, Eric King