



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE
UNITED CHURCH



*"Living Water" by Lauren Wright Pittman
Inspired by John 4:5-42*

The 3rd Sunday in Lent
A Service of the Word

12 March 2023 • 10:30 AM

Welcome to Cloverdale United Church! As we say at nearly every worship service, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey God welcomes you... and so do we.” We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We come from different religious backgrounds, we bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we gather and worship God together as one.

In this lovely old church, we do Sunday morning in some fairly traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We gather around the waters of grace and the feast table of Christ, just as Christians have done for nearly two thousand years. Some of the songs we sing (certainly not *all* of them, though) are ones our grandparents might also have sung in their day. And yet, amidst rituals and rites rooting us in a deep heritage, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and we listen for God’s Spirit still speaking into our lives today. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Have a cup of coffee or a bite to eat with us. Introduce yourself to other worshippers or our pastor. There are plenty of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

Children are welcome at all services! It is important for families to worship together. Don’t feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children—and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles—as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, “faith is caught, not taught!”

 **Washrooms** can be found just outside the sanctuary through the door at the front right of the space (the northeast corner of the room).

 Thank you for **silencing cell phones** and other devices, and for refraining from flash photography.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion: *All* are welcome, *including* children, to share in the feast at Christ’s table. We usually celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of each month, as well as on certain other holy days.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: We gladly offer the sign and seal of God’s grace in the waters of baptism, both to children and adults of any age. *For more information, contact the minister.*

The language of worship is rich and diverse, and yet always inadequate to express the fullness of the divine. In our worship, we strive to use *inclusive* language for humanity and *expansive* imagery for the divine, while respecting the poetry and imagery of texts handed down to us from the ages. Honouring our diversity, in those places where we speak or sing together, worshippers may use language with which they are comfortable or familiar.

The 3rd Sunday in Lent

"Someone feeling wronged is like someone feeling thirsty. Don't tell them they aren't. Sit with them and have a drink."

— *Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler)*

*As you are able, whether in body or in spirit, please rise for those parts marked with an asterisk **

*Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices, and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.*

GATHERING 모임

The Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ's resurrection

Prelude 전주

Emma Rui-Xuan Shi

Greeting 인사

The Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld, guest worship leader

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship 예배로 부름

One: We gather together—

Many: **the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers, in hopes of seeing God.**

One: We gather together—

Many: **the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely, in hopes of finding peace.**

One: We gather together—

Many: **those who are thirsty and those with water to spare, in hopes of finding justice.**

One: So come to the well,
come to the table.

Come, let us worship God.

*** Hymn 찬송** — “Come, Let Us Sing”

Voices United #222

Confession and Forgiveness 죄의 고백과 용서

CALL TO CONFESSION 고백으로의 초청

PRAYER OF CONFESSION 죄의 고백

Many: Holy God, we have been on every side of this story.
 We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion,
 and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well.
 So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity
 to share water with our neighbours
 How often have we forgotten
 that we have a bucket and the power to bring change?
 How often have we simply decided
 that justice and compassion were not worth the work?
 Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you
 who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day.
 It was you. It is still you.

Quiet is kept for personal confession and reflection.

PRAYER FOR MERCY: THE KYRIE

KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS 용서의 선언

One: Family of faith, as hard as it is to imagine:
 we could lose the bucket, we could hoard the water for ourselves,
 we could pretend we do not see all who are thirsty,
 and we would still belong to God.

This is the good news of the gospel:

Many: God's grace is deeper than any well.
 In Jesus Christ, we are seen, loved, and forgiven.
 Thanks be to God!

THE PEACE 평화의 인사

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

All are invited to share signs of Christ's peace with those around them.

Words of Welcome & News from Our Life Together 교회소식

WORD 말씀

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Anthem — “Behold the Shepherd” by Natalie Sleeth

The Choir

Behold the shepherd on the hill; He tends the flock while all is still.
He scans the height and probes the deep, Content to suffer for his sheep.
Behold what burdens he must bear, the wayward lambs within his care;
He watches well while others sleep, Content to suffer for his sheep.

*Miserere**, *miserere, miserere nobis***, *Miserere*, Lord, have mercy, Grant to him thy peace.

Behold his love for one and all, His sacrifice for great and small;
A lonely vigil he must keep, Content to suffer for his sheep.
Like them, we too have gone astray, but Christ would shepherd us always,
And for our sins in sorrow weep, Content to suffer for his sheep.

Miserere, miserere, miserere nobis, Miserere, Lord, have mercy,
Grant to us thy peace. Grant us thy peace.

(* *miserere* = “have mercy”, ** *nobis* = “upon us” or “to us”)

The Early Word 어린이 설교

Robyn Garland

ending with **The Lord’s Prayer** 회중기도와 주기도

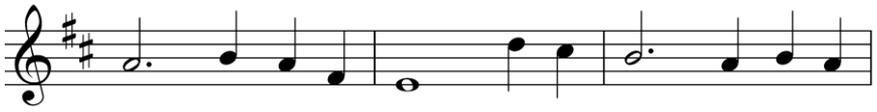
Many: Our Father, who art in Heaven,	하늘에 계신 우리 아버지여,
hallowed be thy name,	이름이 거룩히 여김을
thy kingdom come,	받으시옵며, 나라이 임하옵시며,
thy will be done	뜻이 하늘에서 이룬 것같이
on earth as it is in heaven.	땅에서도 이루어지이다. 오늘날
Give us this day our daily bread,	우리에게 일용할 양식을
and forgive us our trespasses	주옵시고, 우리가 우리에게 죄
as we forgive those	지은 자를 사하여 준 것같이 우리
who trespass against us.	죄를 사하여 주옵시고, 우리를
And lead us not into temptation,	시험에 들게 하지 마옵시고,
but deliver us from evil,	다만 악에서 구하옵소서. 대개
for Thine is the Kingdom,	나라와 권세와 영광이 아버지께
the power, and the glory,	영원히 있사옵나이다. 아멘.
for ever and ever. Amen.	

Refrain 찬송 — “Come to Me, O Weary Traveller”

AUSTIN



before the readings	“Come to me,	O wea-ry trav - eller; come to
after the readings	“Rest in me,	O wea-ry trav - eller; rest in



me with your dis - tress; come to me, you heav - y -
me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is



bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."
gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

First Reading 성경봉독 — Exodus 17:1-7

pew bibles OT p. 64

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 성경봉독 — John 4:5-42

pew bibles NT p. 94

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

IN ENGLISH

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

IN KOREAN

after the reading:

One: 아멘 (Amen).

Many: 아멘 (Amen).

Refrain 찬송 — "Come to Me, O Weary Traveller"

see music above

**"Rest in me, O weary traveller; rest in me and do not fear.
Rest in me, my heart is gentle; rest and cast away your care."**

Sermon 설교 — "Seeking: Will you give me a drink?"

a time of quiet follows the sermon

*** Hymn** 찬송 — "By the Well, a Thirsty Woman"

More Voices #117

RESPONSE 응답

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel, in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts 봉헌

Many ways to give! We welcome your offering in the way that works for you: by cash or cheque in the offering plates, through automatic monthly gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the office to enrol), by free eTransfer from your bank account (to cloverdalepastoralcharge@gmail.com), or by credit card via CanadaHelps.org (service fees apply). Want to give right now but don't have cash or cheque? Scan the QR Code → to be taken to our [CanadaHelps](#) page.



Prayer Requests — As the morning offering is collected:

- in-person worshippers can share prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) on the **purple-topped prayer request cards** found in the pew racks and place them the offering plates as they are passed.
- live-via-Zoom online worshippers are welcome to submit prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) in the Zoom “chat” feature.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Emma Rui-Xuan Shi

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS** 경배 찬양 — “Take, O Take Me as I Am” More Voices #85

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall
be; set your seal up-on my heart, and live in me.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** 감사기도

Many: Generous God,

**You have given us so many gifts from the bounty of your love.
We have life and freedom to be your people.
We have this community of faith to celebrate your presence.**

May our gifts be the water of life for those who thirst,
nourishment for those who hunger
and a source of justice for those who are oppressed.
Take the lives that we offer in service to you and to your world
for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

SENDING 파송

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

* Hymn 찬송 — “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Voices United #559

* An Affirmation of Faith 신앙의 고백

One: We believe that a glass of water given to us by a stranger
can taste like justice.

Many: We believe that honest conversation has the power to change us.

One: We believe that all God's children have a voice and something to say.

Many: We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the ignored, the shamed,
and the abandoned.

One: We believe in asking questions.

Many: We believe in curiosity.

One: We believe in giving people a drink.

Many: May we be brave enough to give people a drink.

* Charge and Benediction 파송과 축도

Postlude 후주

Gordon Taylor, soloist

“I walked today where Jesus walked” by Geoffrey O’Hara

Be Our Guest! Come on down to the Lower Hall for coffee or tea or another beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! Access to the Lower Hall is down the stairs outside the door at the front right of the sanctuary or via the elevator at the front left of the sanctuary. Follow the crowds on down, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you!

Life at Cloverdale United Church

Worship

About today's cover art: “Living Water,” digital painting, by Lauren Wright Pittman, inspired by John 4:5-42. Artist's statement: In a quick Google image search of this story, I noticed that, in most of the art, Jesus and the Samaritan woman are

almost never on the same level. In my piece, the positioning of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is inspired by the work of Karoline M. Lewis in her commentary on John. She introduces a fresh way of looking at this text, with a focus on their “mutuality of need.” Jesus needs water to drink, and the woman needs living water. She writes: “Jesus needs her to be a witness, and she needs Jesus to invite her into this new identity.”

In this image, their body positioning is mirrored, with their eyes on the same plane. Where their arms overlap becomes a vibrant blue, creating a water drop with a dove in it, representing the living water that springs forth from their mutual need and relationship. Each of their clothing is patterned with the other’s need. In Jesus’ clothing are simplified “springs of water gushing up to eternal life” (John 4:14). In the Samaritan woman’s clothes, her water jar is positioned upright and poured out, representing her wrestling with whether she will interact with this man—and further, whether he is the awaited Messiah.

The image is subtly divided in half by slight shifts in color value. There is a chasm between them socially, culturally, religiously, etc. Referencing a primary dispute between the Jews and the Samaritans, their places of worship are in the background: on the left is the temple in Jerusalem, and on the right is Mount Gerizim.

In the center is the Samaritan woman’s vessel. We are not told whether she fills the jar or gives Jesus water, however, we are told that she leaves the jar behind. Her need is not the water in the well; her need is for grounding in a new identity, and to be seen for who she really is. She needs to not be defined by the worst parts of her life, the number of her husbands, or others’ assumptions, but to be seen through the lens of mutual need—to be seen as one of the first witnesses of the Messiah, and now a vessel of living water herself.

Many thanks to today’s ...

readers: Bev Siggs, Chohee Won

ushers/greeters: Sydney and Fred MacPherson

digital ushers: Doug, Jamie Brown

fellowship time hosts: Sharon McBain and Debbie Jordbakke.



Recording and streaming in use: Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship services, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms. Likewise, from time to time still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence within the sanctuary, you are indicating your consent to the possibility that your likeness may be captured and used in any of these ways. While video capture of congregants in the pews is relatively minimal, if you wish to guarantee you will not ever be depicted on video, the area at the rear centre of the pew seating area is unable to be picked up on camera.

Acknowledgements:

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- Call to Worship (alt.), Prayer of Confession (alt.), Assurance of Forgiveness (adapt.), and An Affirmation of Faith (alt.) by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, in “Words for Worship – For Lent-Easter: Year A”, *Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith*, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org; used by permission.
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Learn

Devotional Booklets and Daily Devotional Cards for Lent: The Season of Lent began on Wednesday, February 22nd. Bring into your home and your daily rhythm for the whole season the *Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith* journey that we’re taking as a church. **Devotional Booklets** and sets of **Daily Devotional Cards** are available at the church for you to pick up *today*, (Note that due to print limitations, we had to split the devotional booklets into two parts for the season: the ones available today cover the second half of the season.

Serve

Usher-Greeter Orientation: *Sunday, March 19th, around 12:00 Noon in the Sanctuary.* Have you been serving as one of our ushers for Sunday worship, whether frequently or only once-in-a-while? Would you be open to serving in this important yet often under-appreciated ministry? The ministry of hospitality and service that is performed by our usher-greeters is critical to facilitating the atmosphere of worshipfulness and welcome that we strive to embody as a community—and yet it’s also a ministry that is simple for people of all ages and skillsets to engage with. If you are currently among those who serve as an usher, or are willing to consider joining the team, please plan to join Rev. Matt and members of the Worship Committee for a quick re-orientation and training session. This approximately 30-minute time together will be an opportunity to make sure all our ushers have the support and knowledge they need in order to feel comfortable and confident in their role. (We will offer this session again later in the year if you’re unable to join us on March 19.) *For more information, contact Rev. Matt.*

You Serve with your Stewardship: *The woman said to Jesus, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” (John 4:15).* Jesus tells the Samaritan woman, “The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life” (John 4:14_b). Watering your soul with Christ’s living presence is good stewardship indeed!

Lent 2023 at CUC: “Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith”: The journey through scripture we’ll take across the season of Lent this year offers us many stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking: Nicodemus comes to Jesus in the veil of night, Jesus approaches a Samaritan woman at a well, Jesus heals a man born without sight. In these stories, each person is seeking a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. What unfolds is an exchange filled with questions and exploration. Often, an unveiling occurs—assumptions are disrupted, a new perspective is revealed, mystery grows.

And so, we’ll dig in with some deep questions. Many of our weekly questions feel restorative (“Can these bones live?”). Some feel like a charge or challenge (“Who will you listen to?”). Some questions are hopeful and curious (“How do we begin again?”). Our questions won’t necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective. Ultimately, we pray they lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace.

Like the characters in our Lenten scriptures, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, justice, balance. We are seeking our calling, the sacred, and how to live as a disciple. Throughout the turbulence of the past few years, many of us are asking big questions about our lives and our faith. If you are returning to church, you are probably returning with more questions and a critical lens. We hope this series will help us unpack some of those big questions in ways that are honest and faithful. Throughout this season, we hope you will continually ask yourself: what am I seeking? What is God seeking?

Learn more about our worship plans for each week of the season on the CUC website: <http://www.cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca/>

Children's Church: Our weekly "Children's Church" faith formation programming for children and youth, offered during the middle portion of our worship service and led by our Children and Youth Leader, Robyn Garland, will focus on the same stories and themes as the worship services, using creative and exploratory storytelling inspired by Godly Play, along with a variety of interactive activities.

Seasonal Devotionals: A devotional booklet with scripture, commentary, poetry, visual art, hymns, and written reflections that coordinate with each week's themes and scriptures are available at the church. So are *daily devotional cards*, meant to enable and inspire a daily rhythm of prayer throughout the season. (Sorry, for copyright and licensing reasons, we cannot post these resources on the CUC website; we can, however, direct you privately to digital versions if you contact the church office at office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca.)



seeking:
honest questions
for deeper faith

Religion in the Service of Humanity

The entanglement of religion and politics in the Middle East often divides communities and leads to conflict, particularly among young people. "We all agreed that it is important to focus on universal values and ethics, reject extremism, and make the necessary efforts to develop practical formulas for fruitful cooperation," says Rima Bayan Sleem, a 33-year-old judicial assistant from Chouf, Lebanon.



"We all agreed that it is important to focus on universal values and ethics, reject extremism, and make the necessary efforts to develop practical formulas for fruitful cooperation."

Thanks to your Mission & Service gifts, Rima and 36 other young adults gathered in Beirut, Lebanon, for the World Student Christian Federation-Middle East Region (WSCF-ME) 2021. They participated in an

Interfaith Dialogue program that develops leaders skilled in preventing violence and fostering peace between communities.

WSCF-ME's role is to be a mediator of peace and understanding amid all the overwhelming regional issues that include sectarian strife. "The Interfaith Dialogue program's importance lies in the fact that it brings together youth from different religious backgrounds...to engage in a constructive peace-facilitating dialogue," says Mira Neaimh, Regional Executive for WSCF-ME. "I personally believe that change is done in small steps, starting from our regional gatherings that sow seeds of peace to be reaped in the future."

"The Interfaith Dialogue program's importance lies in the fact that it brings together youth from different religious backgrounds...to engage in a constructive peace-facilitating dialogue."

Your [Mission & Service](#) gifts help leaders in the Middle East and across the world collaborate and promote peaceful dialogue.

We are a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community, reaching out from the historic heart of Surrey at Cloverdale since 1875. We seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community.... to serve others as Jesus would.

CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH

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