

1 March 2026

Lent 2

**THIS WEEK AT BRECHIN**

**Minister:** Rev. Katherine Brittain

**Music Director and Choir Leader:** Tim Weger

**Leader:** Judy Wiebe

**Greeters:** Lenore Thomas & Jane Wiebe

**Power Point:** Kathy Torhjelm

**Announcements Preparation:** Mary Boyd

**Audio Visual:** Matt Haapala

**Coffee Servers:** Brent Richardson & Chris Carolan

Centering and Land Acknowledgement and Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Tell me something good!

**God loves you more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.**

This is good news indeed!

**Let us worship our compassionate God.**

Affirming statement:

**All: As an Affirming Ministry we boldly declare that we fully welcome and include the full participation of all people in the life and work of Ministry as we journey together, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, marital status, mental or physical ability, beliefs, cultural backgrounds, or economic circumstance. We are dedicated to being good stewards of God's world, working and living towards justice and wholeness for all God's people.**

Hymn:

VU 365 "Jesus Loves Me"

*(Words: v. 1 Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859, v. 2 and 3 David Rutherford McGuire 1970*

*Music: William Batchelder Bradbury 1862*

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- 1. Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
in his love we shall be strong.**

**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.**

2. Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me." R
3. Jesus loves me still today,  
walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give  
light and love to all who live. R

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,**

**did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?**

**Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?**

**Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?**

**Or did we cross the street?**

**Did we avert our eyes?**

**Did we come up with every excuse in the book?**

**God, we long to be people who love our neighbours  
with the same overwhelming love that you have for them.**

**But we must admit, we have a long way to go.**

**Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear  
get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again.**

**With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.**

Sung Response: VU 948 "O God, Hear My Prayer"

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**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer: when I call answer me.**

**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.**

Assurance of Grace

One: Beloved community,  
even when we act with judgment,  
even when we are guided by fear,  
even when we turn our back on a neighbour in need,  
God does not turn God's back on us.

So join me in this good-news declaration:

**All: We are seen. We are forgiven.**

**We are invited to try again.**

**Thanks be to God for this unending love.**

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50, Matthew 25:35-40

Response:

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: **Thanks be to God**

Music: Tell Me Something Good Video

Sermon: The Good News Is...Great Love for God and Neighbour

Rev Katherine Brittain

Affirmation of faith

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.  
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.  
It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.  
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,  
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**I have seen it alive in the world.  
And even when my heart aches,  
even when wars rage,  
even when mercy feels out of reach,  
I remember the one who welcomed the children  
and led with nonviolence.  
I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable  
and inspired those around him.**

**I remember that the good news really is good news,  
for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Hymn: VU 372 "Though I May Speak"

*(Words: Hal H. Hobson, 1972  
Music trad. English Melody, adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1972,  
words and arrangement © 1972 Hope Publishing Company)*

- 1.     Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
          and have the gift to all inspire,  
          and have not love, my words are vain,  
          as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**
  
- 2.     Though I may give all I possess,  
          And striving so my love profess,  
          but not be given by love within,  
          the profit soon turns strangely thin.**
  
- 3.     Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
          our spirits long to be made whole.  
          Let inward love guide every deed,  
          By this we worship, and are freed.**

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

### Invitation to Offering

Offering Hymn: MV 62 "There is Room for All"

*(Words & music: Bruce Harding, 2004; French trans. David Fines, 2006*

*Words & music © 2004 by Bruce Harding, [www.evensong.ca](http://www.evensong.ca).*

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**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;  
There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.  
And I rejoice and sing, "My refuge and my rock,  
in whom I trust."  
There is room for all, there is room for all!**

### Offering Prayer

Hymn: TLUS 28 "I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table"

*(Words and music: African-American spiritual, alt.: arr. Carl R. Diton, alt.*

*Arrangement ©1930 (Renewed) by G. Schirmer, Inc. (ASCAP)*

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1. **I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;  
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, one of these days.  
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;  
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, one of these days.**
2. **I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, one of these days.  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, one of these days.**
3. **I'm gonna join with all God's children;  
I'm gonna join with all God's children, one of these days.  
I'm gonna join with all God's children;  
I'm gonna join with all God's children, one of these days.**
4. **Here all the world will find a welcome;  
Here all the world will find a welcome, one of these days.  
Here all the world will find a welcome;  
Here all the world will find a welcome, one of these days.**
5. **We're gonna feast on milk and honey;  
We're gonna feast on milk and honey, one of these days.  
We're gonna feast on milk and honey;  
We're gonna feast on milk and honey, one of these days.**

## Celebrating the Sacrament of Communion

One: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from your work and your play, and gather around Jesus' table. There are no strangers here, for we are all welcomed. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: You have entered this place, O God,  
and in your holy shadow,  
heaven tangles with earth in the bread and wine,  
and the promise of flesh is realized.  
As you once came to us in a stable in Bethlehem  
come now and be with us in the bread,  
in this world that hungers and waits for truth.  
As once your Spirit poured forth life upon the earth  
come now and pour the wine for this creation, waiting for renewal.

**All: Be present in our hope in this holy time:  
in the silence of power and the power of silence;  
in the throne rooms of the rich and the shanties of  
the poor; in overfed communities and underfed souls;  
gather up hope in the bread and wine.**

One: Break open the good news of your incarnation:  
on parched farmlands and frightened cities;  
in the hearts of the proud and the longings of the  
lowly. Gather up the good news in the bread and wine.

**All: Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, Giver of  
all life, Source of love. We bless you for all your gifts.  
You bring creation to birth and send prophets  
to awaken us to your presence among us.**

One: We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to  
us, in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in  
tenderness and compassion. For Jesus Christ, in whom  
you gather the hopes and fears of all the years, we  
bless your Holy Name, joining with all your people of  
every time and place, with angels and archangels who  
proclaim the holy birth, singing

**All: "Holy Lord"**

*(Lyrics & Music: Steve Bell, Arrangement: Ilchyshyn/Schwartz  
© 1991, Signpost Music (SOCAN)*

*E-mail: [signpost@signpostmusic.com](mailto:signpost@signpostmusic.com)/Website: [www.signpostmusic.com](http://www.signpostmusic.com))*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth of your glory are full.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth of your glory are full.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

Prayers, Blessings and Remembering the Story

Sharing the Gifts of God with the People of God

Prayer after Communion (Unison):

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table with these gifts of bread and wine. We have been welcomed here, as we would welcome all, stranger and friend, into our living. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and in peace. Amen.**

Announcements: Life and Work of the Church

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**

Happy birthday to you, Happy Anniversary to you  
May God bless and keep you the coming year through.

Hymn:

MV 92 "Like a Rock"

*(Words: Keri K. Wehlander, 1998*

*Adapted to music: Linnea Good, 1999*

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**Like a rock, like a rock,  
God is under our feet.  
Like the starry night sky  
God is over our head.**

**Like the sun on the horizon  
God is ever before.  
Like the river runs to ocean,  
our home is in God evermore.**

Commissioning and Benediction

One: As you leave this place,  
when you meet anger, speak with love.  
When you meet fear, speak with hope.  
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.  
But no matter what, speak this good news.

**All: For the good news of the gospel is  
love and justice for all.  
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.**

One: The good news of the gospel is alive in the world,  
so go forth speaking.  
For if you won't, then who will?

**All: Thanks be to God for this good, good news. Amen**