



Date: March 8, 2026
Lent 3
Theme: God, Rock of Salvation

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Barbara-Lynn & Dave Goodwin
Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie or Nora Nixon
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

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

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **40 days of Giving:** Stettler, Big Valley and Erskine United Churches are asking their congregations to make a donation on each day of Lent. The contributions will be presented and blessed on Easter Sunday. The "vessel" can be (sock, glass jar, pretty box) anything you like. The donations will be given to a global crisis (to be determined ~ Eg: Ukraine conflict)
- **Sing Along with** Bless, Break, Share: Recipes for Faithful Living: A Reflection on Food as Spiritual Practice.
- **Friday gatherings** include sing along and video presentation of The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, about food and spiritual life. The fourth gathering will be at Stettler United Church on March 13 at 1 pm.
- **First Annual Prayer Breakfast**
 - Sponsored by the Stettler and District Ministerial
 - March 19, 2026 from 8:00 to 9:30 am
 - Fundraiser for Stettler Crisis Aid Fund
 - Location: The Hub in the Stettler Rec Centre.
 - For entrance, a ticket is required.
 - Stettler Ministerial is also seeking volunteers for cooking, setting up and cleaning up afterward.
 - Please, contact Kwon for a ticket / volunteering.

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

We have experienced the wilderness of life.

We have experienced hunger for connection.

We have been tempted to put ourselves first.

However, we have not tested our God.

We have trusted in God's love and provision.

Now there are 40 days in which to reflect on our journey.

Let us begin with worship!

Karen Boivin, Melville U.C., Fergus, Ont. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 28. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

Today, we light the Christ Candle to remember and celebrate the life of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

Inspire us to live as the children of light in the world as we see the Christ Candle burning.

Hymn *Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights

VU#108 Words: James Gertmenian © 1993 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Musikalisches Handbuch. Words: Hope Publishing Company. Music: Public Domain. CCLI, LicenSing, OneLicense.net

Opening Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of all goodness, Creator of love, notice these children of yours.

We know you experience the times and ways your creation has fallen.

Envy, strife, vain ideas, and greed all run through these hearts you designed for love.

You notice these failings, and yet, Lord, you love us still.

You are our strength when we are weak.

You are the anchor when our lives begin to drift.

We reach out to grasp your promise, to accept what is freely given.

Today we do ask to be reminded again of the promise of your love.

Trusting in your love, we ask for forgiveness.

We turn to you with hearts wide open.

We welcome your grace.

To you, Lord, above all, we offer our praise and our love as we pray with voices united. Amen.

Della DeMoss, John Wesley U.C., Roddickton, Nfld. & Lab. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 31. Used with Permission.

***Hymn Like a Rock MV#92 (Twice)**

Words: Keri K. Wehlander, 1998 Adapted to music: Linnea Good, 1999 Words and music copyright © 1999 Borealis Music, www.LinneaGood.com. LicenSingOnline CCLI

Prayer of Illumination

Dear God, we thank you for revealing yourself in the Word of God.

May we encounter God's presence and find God's calling in the scriptures. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Dave Goodwin

Exodus 17:1-7: Water from the rock.

Psalms 95: Let us shout to the rock of our salvation.

Special Music Barbara-Lynn and Dave Goodwin

Hymn Tell Me the Stories of Jesus VU#357 (verse 1) (being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885, Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together* VU#480

Words, Music: African-American spiritual. Harmony: © 1971 F.R.C. Clarke. Words, Music: Public Domain. Harmony: F.R.C. Clarke. N/A

Call to Give Thanks

The Holy One is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 273.

The Great Thanksgiving

ALL: Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love. From the dust of the earth, you created us in your image. From the bondage and slavery, you delivered us. Through all our wilderness wanderings you guide us. You call us to renewal and repentance, to justice and compassion, to healing and wholeness. We thank you for sending us Jesus, your Chosen One, Bread for our journey. He lived and loved this human life, taking upon himself our suffering and sorrow, being tested as we are tested, and reaching out to broken victims of the world's brokenness. In him we come to know your truth, to feel the life that is Christ within us. So it is that throughout these Lenten days and nights we worship

you, and bless your name: *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 278.*

Song of Creation (*Sanctus-Benedictus*)

ALL: Holy, holy, holy God, Power of life and love! Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna through the ages! Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 285.

Institution Narrative

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 286.

Prayer of Self-Giving

ALL: Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ, we offer you our praise, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 290.

Affirmation of Memory and Hope (*Memorial Acclamation*)

ALL: We remember Jesus' death. We proclaim Christ risen. We await the full revelation of love incarnate.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 291.

Prayer for Transformation (*Epiclesis*)

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole. Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 293.

Concluding Praise (Doxology)

ALL: We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, and in the power of your life-giving Spirit, now and forever.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 297.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together saying:

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Fraction and Pouring

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 298.

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, may your gifts of love transform and enliven us that we may live lives of thanksgiving. May your presence among us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace, and your love. In Christ's name, we pray.

Amen.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 303.

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
VU#541 Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

Creator God, we thank you for the ability to share our time, talent, and money to further your work in the world.

We ask that you bless these gifts that they may provide for our neighbours both near and far. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Marie Slivocka, Trinity U.C., New Glasgow, N.S. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 33. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

***Hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* VU#262**

Words: Martin Luther. Translated by Frederick H. Hedge. Music: melody Martin Luther. Harmonized from The New Hymnal for American Youth. Descant: © 1980 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Words, Translation, Music: Public Domain. Descant: G.I.A. Publications, Inc. N/A

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude