



Date: March 15, 2026
Lent 4
Theme: God's Choice

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Linda Kneeland
Audio/Visual: Sue
(*: 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 gathering~** 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 fifth gathering will be at Stettler United Church on **March 20 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 come in worship, seeking God's guidance and love.

May this time of worship fill us with the Spirit, to restore our faith and our hope in God's presence.

Although we are well-intended, we need God's word to renew our direction and commitment.

May this time of worship strengthen our hearts to follow God's way.

God calls us to support each other and draw on the example of those who went before.

May this time of worship comfort us with the truth of God's love throughout the ages.

In worship, let us welcome God into our hearts.

In worship, let us affirm our love of God and God's love for us.

Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 29. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

We thank God for sending Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, to the world.

May the light of the Christ candle shine brightly in our hearts and inspire us to remember the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

***Hymn Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary MV#18**

(Three Times) Words and music: John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs Words and music copyright © 1982 for all territories

Opening Prayer

Prayer of Confession

O God, we come together yet feel alone.

We come uncertain if this world we live in is really your world.

Some days, it is easy to believe in you.

But our doubts ask, "What has God done lately?"

We search for your son, Jesus, to help us reconcile and make new.

How do we trust that you work in us and others by the Spirit?

How do we trust in you?

How do we live out our call to be the church?

How do we live with respect in Creation, when smelling forest fire smoke?

How do we celebrate your presence with all the reports of starving children?

How do we love and serve others when we fear taking the risk?

How do we seek justice and resist evil when there is so much evil in the world?

How do we proclaim your son, Jesus, crucified and risen?

How do we love you, our judge and our hope?

Forgive us our doubts, our fears, and our frailty.

Help us live in your love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Receive these words repeated often in scripture: Since we have been made right in God's sight by our faith,

we are at peace with God, and we confidently and joyfully anticipate the day on which we will become all that God has intended.

Let us trust that the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Monica Rosborough, Athabasca U.C., Athabasca, Alta. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 32. Used with Permission.

***Hymn *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* VU#326**

Words: Charles Wesley. Music: Carl Gotthelf Glaser, adapted and harmonized by Lowell Mason. Public Domain. N/A

Prayer of Illumination

Now is the time to listen to the Word of God.

May we pay attention to what you said. Illuminate our spirit so that we may understand your will in your word. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Malcolm Fischer

***1 Samuel 16:1–13*: Samuel chooses one of Jesse's sons as king.**

***Ephesians 5:8–14*: Live as children of the light.**

***John 9:1–12*: Jesus heals the man born blind.**

Special Music Malcolm Fischer

***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 Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Open My Eyes, That I May See* VU#371**

Words, Music: Clara H. Scott 1895. Public Domain. N/A

Invitation for Offering

***Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* VU#541**

Words, Music: Clara H. Scott 1895. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

ALL: May these gifts of talent, time, and money bring encouragement, strength, and peace to each other and to all who need care, O God, and may our gifts, in some small way, bear witness to our love. Amen.

George Allan, Chatham, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 33. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

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.

***Hymn *Psalm 23: The Lord's My Shepherd* VU p.747**

Albert Ham ca. 1900 Public Domain. N/A

***Commissioning and Benediction**

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

Postlude