



WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

LENT ONE

March 5, 2017

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

At the points marked * - those who are able are invited to stand.

Presider: The Reverend Rose-Hannah Gaskin

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Organ Prelude: Fantasia on Thee We Adore, O Hidden Saviour
(Boely)

Lenten Introit: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

Lenten Candle Liturgy:

One: On this the first Sunday of Lent, we reflect on the temptations of this world which test our desire to do what God wants and to honour our covenant with God. Like Christ during his wilderness experience, we are faced by the reality of making choices. Choices which call us to be obedient to God's plan or to give in to what appears to be the easy way.

All: We snuff out the first candle today as we think of those times we have chosen things which draw us away from God. Every time we give into temptation, we lessen the light of God in the world.

(The candle is extinguished.)

One: We are also reminded today of God's promise to all of creation. And with sadness we acknowledge that creation is threatened by pollution and our mismanagement of the earth's resources. Our choices have not always been wise ones.

Let us pray:

All: Gracious God, our Protector and Defender. We come before You knowing that we do not always follow Your way. Help us to treat one another and all of creation with love, kindness and justice. Comfort and support us as we make our way through Lent. Amen.

The Christ Candle is Lit

Welcome to the Church

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer:

O God our Creator,
in you alone are the riches of life.

We come from the East and we come from the West
knowing we follow, on our different roads,
the same star to the same place.

May we share what we know of its light,
learn from each other the way to the stable,
worship you, our only wealth,
and serve the world with Gospel gold.

We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Sri Lanka

***Opening Hymn:** Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights VU #108

Story Time for the Young and Young at Heart

*** Hymn:** Jesus Loves Me VU #365

Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love: Psalm 32

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer of Preparation: Elizabeth Savoie

God, the words you speak have power: power to create, power to disturb,
power to heal. Help us to hear your Word for us today. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 4: 1-11

Anthem: Remember Me (Althouse)

Sermon: Beginning a Good Lent” Freedom and Obedience
Rev. R-H Gaskin

Time for Silent Reflection

Hymn: Jesus, Tempted in the Desert VU #115

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Announcements

Invitation to The Offering

Offertory Music

Presentation of the Gifts

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Please come forward to the station nearest you, and take a piece of bread and dip it into the grape juice. Water & gluten free crackers are available upon request. Then return to your seat quietly via the same aisle. If you wish to be served in the pews, please remain seated there and a server will come to you after others have been served.

*** Closing Hymn:** O God, How We Have Wandered VU #112

*** Blessing and Sending Forth:**

May the blessing of God, fountain of living water,
flow within us as a river of life.

May we drink deeply of her wisdom.

May we never thirst again.

May we go through life refreshing many, as a sign of healing for all;
through the One who is Life eternal. Amen.

*** Choral Amen** VU #969

Postlude: Processional March (Harris)

If you wish, you are invited to remain for the Postlude as it is part of our Worship Service.

WELCOME to this service of worship and thank you for being with us today. You are invited to join us for **COFFEE & CONVERSATION** in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall following the worship service. If you are new to our church, we have a 'Welcome to Wilmot' kit for you. Please ask one of the ushers at the back of the sanctuary, for the blue folder. We're glad you're here! Thank you to members of the **STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** for hosting this special time of fellowship.



The Lent/Easter issue of Words from Wilmot is available from our welcomers at the door this morning and at Coffee and Conversation after worship. Please pick up your copy, and consider taking copies for neighbours, friends or relatives whom you know are unable to get out to church, or would enjoy having a copy. Large print copies are also available, and you will be able to access a copy in colour on the Wilmot Website: www.wilmotuc.nb.ca. Thanks for promoting our website and spreading the word for all of our upcoming Lent and Easter season events.

BENEVOLENT OFFERING: On the first Sunday of every month we collect a special Benevolent Offering. This is used to provide food vouchers for those in need on Wednesday afternoons.

THE PRAYER CIRCLE offers confidential prayer support for those with physical, emotional, family and spiritual needs. To have your concerns added to the Wilmot prayer list contact Guy Vezina (455-6174) or Raday Brown (454-3001).



DON'T FORGET: Church Office will be closed March 2nd - 23rd. Access to church during afternoons (12:30 - 6 p.m.) not possible unless group leader has key or prior arrangements are made. It would be wise to phone ahead (452-0219) to see if the building is open.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Are you wondering what the youth did last Sunday evening? Ten of us headed off with shovels over our shoulders to the steps leading up to the pedway by the library and we shoveled. (and we only broke one shovel!) These steps are not cleared by the city and yet many people do their best to maneuver them. Our efforts helped make the steps a little safer - complete with sand!

WILMOT SENIORS: Why don't you join us on Tuesday, March 7th at 1:30 p.m. in the parlour for a fun afternoon of Bingo! As usual, there will be prizes and a delicious refreshment time which will be provided this month by Group 3. All seniors and retirees are warmly welcome!

DON'T FORGET to set your clocks AHEAD on March 12th!



HARMONICA LESSONS: The harmonica is a portable, inexpensive instrument whose music can move you to tears or inspire you to dance with joy. Malcolm Miller holds free, one hour harmonica lessons every Wednesday at 12 noon in the Fireside Room and anyone from the Wilmot congregation is encouraged to participate along with a few of our friends from Wednesday at Wilmot. He will even provide you with a harmonica. No previous experience needed - beginners welcome. Drop in to give it a try or call Malcolm at 471-8916 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Several spots are available on Wilmot's Community Kitchen teams and you are invited to consider this volunteer opportunity. Every Sunday evening from 4 - 6 p.m., one of our six teams helps to prepare and serve a hot meal and clean up afterwards. Two hours every six weeks to help the most vulnerable people in our community and it's fun! Please contact Beth Paynter for more info: 454-5581 or bpaynter@nb.sympatico.ca.

THIS WEEK AT WILMOT

March 5th - 12th

TODAY: LENT ONE

- 9:30 am **ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION** - Board Room
11:00 am **WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL**
12:00 pm **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Monday, Mar. 6:

- 1:30 p.m. **SPANISH CLASS** -Parlour
6:30 p.m. **LEGAL ADVICE CLINIC**
6:45 p.m. **TOASTMASTERS CLUB** - Board Room

Tuesday, Mar. 7:

- 11:45 a.m. **WORSHIP COMMITTEE** - Parlour
1:30 p.m. **WILMOT SENIORS** - Parlour
7:00 p.m. **MARTIAL ARTS** - Gym

Wednesday, Mar. 8:

- 9:00 a.m. **QUILTERS** - Parlour
1:00 p.m. **WEDNESDAY @ WILMOT**
7:00 p.m. **NA GROUP** - Fireside Rom

Thursday, Mar. 9:

- 9:30 a.m. **QUILTING and FELLOWSHIP (learn to quilt)** - Parlour
1:00 p.m. **WRITERS GROUP** - Parlour
6:30 p.m. **HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE**
7:00 p.m. **MARTIAL ARTS** -Gym
7:30 p.m. **CHOIR PRACTICE** _____

Saturday, Mar. 11:

- 6:00 p.m. **DROP-IN CENTRE**

Sunday, Mar. 12: LENT TWO

- 9:30 a.m. **ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION** - Board Room
11:00 a.m. **WORSHIP & S.S.**
12:00 p.m. **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Lenten Carbon Fast

Consider a Carbon Fast this year during the season of Lent. We will provide you with daily suggestions for reducing energy consumption and overall carbon footprints.

Monday Turn your central heating thermostat down by one degree. For every degree you lower your thermostat, you can cut energy use by about 3 percent. That translates to an average annual CO2 savings of about 1500 pounds. You save money too.

Tuesday Say goodbye to standby. Turn off electrical equipment when not in use. One TV alone will save 44 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

Wednesday Notice what food you throw away this week. See if you can reduce it by a third. Eat leftovers and shop more carefully using a list and planning your meals. The amount of food thrown away by an average household adds the equivalent CO2 emissions of 1-5 cars.

Thursday Dry your clothes on a clothesline instead of in an electric dryer. Electric driers use up to 10% of residential electricity. The average household can save more than \$100 a year by foregoing the electric clothes dryer and using a clothesline. Clothes dried in the fresh air smell better, too! Some say that you can soften your towels and prevent them from drying stiff on the line by adding a ½ cup of white vinegar to the rinse cycle.

Friday Car pool! Sharing a ride just two days a week will reduce your carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated average 1,590 pounds a year.

Saturday Plan now to celebrate Earth Day, April 22 with your family, friends or community. <https://earthday.ca/ed2017/#>

Second Sunday, March 12 Pray for the work of charitable organizations that help vulnerable communities adapt to climate change around the world.

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? - Micah 6:8

You are invited to take part in an exploration, a journey of discovery. The purpose of this "**Brown Bag Lunch**" is to provide an opportunity for Christian spiritual learning and development during the Lenten season.

You are invited to explore and grow with others as we consider questions to:
become more aware of our own personal faith journey;
deepen our personal faith and relationship with God;
find support for our faith journey;
support the faith journeys of others;
consider ways in which our faith challenges us to act more compassionately and justly within the world.

The themes of these sessions are:

March 9 ~ Who is Jesus for you?

March 16 ~ The Bible: What does it mean to you?

March 23 ~ Prayer: What does it mean to you?

March 30 ~ Nurturing your faith: Which spiritual practices are best for you?

April 6 ~ What is this community called church?

Each session follows the same basic format:

12:00-12:10 - Gather in circle

12:10-12:25 - Centering ritual and presentation on theme

12:25-12:45 - Eating lunch and discussing theme at tables

12:45-12:55 - Closing ritual

When: 12:00 noon-1:00 pm, Every Thursday, March 2-April 6, 2017

Where: St. Paul's United Church, stpaulsunited.ca 458-1183

Leadership: Rev. Richard Bowley, Pastor Sarah Magie

Brown Bag: Bring your lunch. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided.

All Are Welcome!