



WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

LENT THREE

March 19, 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.

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Organ Prelude: The Saints' Delight (Wood)

Handbell Prelude: Daystar/O Sacred Head Now Wounded/Sinfonia
The Frank T. Pridham Memorial Handbell Choir with Nadia Francaville, violin

Lenten Introit: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

Welcome to the Church:

Welcome to this Sacred Place of Belonging, where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God – the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and to old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, youth, children, couples and single people.

Welcome to people of all races, abilities, ethnicity and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

This day we are all invited to live into God's love, peace, and justice.

(Written and used regularly by the Rev. Keith Hagerman)

Lenten Candle Liturgy:

On this third Sunday during Lent, we reflect on the walls we build between God and ourselves and others by our disobedience to God's call for justice and commitment.

As we extinguish today's candle, let us think of God's laws and direction that call us into a better world where all people are valued, not put down. *(Extinguish candle.)*

Sometimes we neglect the spirit in which God calls us. Obedience has a cost for us, and sometimes we judge that cost too high. Jesus challenged the money-changers and there are times when we, too, need to challenge our world. Let us pray:

O Holy One, there are times when we see such injustices in the world. Open our eyes that we may know Your will, and give us strength to follow You and serve one another. Amen.

Call to Worship **:

Come all who need justice.

God weaves in us the path of life.

Come all who need peace.

God weaves in us the way of truth.

Come all who need comfort,

God weaves in us a sure hope.

Come all who need healing,

God weaves in us the promise of wholeness.

Come all who need community,

God weaves in us the love of Christ.

Come all who need God.

God weaves in us the heart of the Divine.

Opening Prayer **:

O God, may this be a place to celebrate Your Presence.

May we tell stories

Of You finding us when we are at our lowest.

Of You reaching us when we feel excluded
Of You holding us when everyone else has let go.
Of You bringing us in when we feel apart.

May this be a place to celebrate Your Presence
and show the world Your steadfast love. **Amen.**

* **Hymn:** Water Flowing from the Mountain VU #87

Story Time for the Young and Young at Heart Ellen Beairsto

* **Hymn:** Dance with the Spirit MV #156

Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing:

(Based on a prayer written by John Birch, (faithandworship.com))

O Holy One, all the fancy words in the world,
expressed in eloquent prose, decorated with emotion,
spoken with conviction, cannot compete with a heartfelt 'sorry'.
There are times when we are all too aware of our limitations,
conscious of our mistakes and the distance it creates between us.
Sometimes 'sorry' is all the heart can bear to say aloud.
You, O God, can read and understand the language of our hearts.
You can translate our 'sorry' into the prayer we would have prayed
if we had the words within us.
Then you forgive, and having forgiven, surround us in an embrace of love,
drawing us close to Your heart as it was always meant to be.
Thank You for listening to our hearts as well as our voices.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer of Preparation

Steven MacKenzie

Scripture Readings: Exodus 3: 1-6
John 4: 5-14

Congregational Response:

This is the witness of God's people.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem: My Soul Doth Magnify (Purifoy)

Reflection: Wonder Holly Hagerman

Prayers of the People

* **Hymn:** Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU #374

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to The Offering

Offertory Music: Pavane (Ravel)
Nadia Francavilla and Steven Peacock

* **Doxology:** VU #541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

* **Prayer of Dedication:**

Gracious God, with thankfulness, we come offering ourselves.
We commit ourselves to Your way of peace and justice, compassion and love. May these gifts of money that come from our hands and our hearts be transformed into action, commitment and faithfulness.
In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

* **Closing Hymn:** I Heard the Voice of Jesus VU #626

* **Commissioning & Benediction**

* **Choral Amen** VU #969

Postlude: Festival Voluntary (Peeters)

**** - Seasons of the Spirit**



Today's bulletin is sponsored by Bob and Susan Breen in celebration of **World Down Syndrome Day** held every year on March 21st. The 21st day of the 3rd month represents the triplication of the 21st chromosome that gives us the gift of people with

Down syndrome. It is a great time to celebrate the contributions made by people with Down syndrome every day in our schools, communities, workplaces and families, in Canada and around the world. "See the Ability!"

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. Thank you to **Yessica Emrique and Ellen Sherren** for hosting this important time of fellowship.

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 until March 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.

Lenten Carbon Fast

Monday Save paper today. Don't print unless you need to and when you do, print double-sided on recycled paper. Use paper, tissue, toilet paper and wood that is recycled or has been accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council. This ensures it has come from responsible sources. <https://ca.fsc.org/en-ca/marketplace/logo-use>

Tuesday Reduce water usage in your home by fixing leaky faucets, which can waste up to 50 gallons (227 L) a day. In one day a dripping tap could fill a tub. Turn the tap off and on during shaving, washing hands and brushing teeth. You can save:

a gallon of water(4.5 L) while washing hands

9 ½ (43 L) gallons brushing teeth

up to 19 (86 L) while shaving by turning the water on and off.

Most toilets use about 5 to 8 litres of water every time you flush. You can reduce this by placing a milk jug filled with water inside the tank. If you need to replace your toilet, buy an energy efficient model that uses less than two gallons of water and consider purchasing a dual flush toilet.

Wednesday Check your tire pressure. Low tire pressure means high fuel consumption.

Thursday Treat your fridge to a good de-icing to reduce ice build up and maintain efficiency. Allowing space for air to circulate will also help it run more efficiently. Place jugs of water in your fridge to help retain cold temperatures and scrub down the coils on the back of your fridge for higher efficiency.

Friday Reuse and recycle waste, and compost food waste to reduce the rubbish destined for landfill sites. If you don't have one, consider buying or making a composter. The average household produces about 4.5 pounds of solid waste per day. Landfill sites are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, with every pound of solid waste generating 2 pounds of greenhouse gases. Composting is methane-free and does not produce carbon.

Saturday Join with millions of others around the world this evening - March 25 and turn off your lights for one hour, beginning at 8:30 p.m. <https://www.earthhour.org/>

Fourth Sunday, March 26 Let us pray that all countries will commit to tackling climate change and that richer, developed countries will take responsibility and cut emissions quickly. Let us pray for governments and world leaders as they seek climate change agreements. Check out the website - Citizens for Public Justice. <https://cpj.ca/>

THIS WEEK AT WILMOT

March 19th - 26th

TODAY: LENT THREE

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

Mon. Mar. 20:

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

Tues. Mar. 21:

12:00 p.m. SENIORS' POT LUCK LUNCH - Parlour
6:30 p.m. PASTORAL HEALTH AND CARE - Parlour
7:00 p.m. MARTIAL ARTS - Gym

Wed. Mar. 22:

9:00 a.m. QUILTERS - Parlour
10:00 a.m. TOY LIBRARY
1:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY @ WILMOT

Thurs. Mar. 23:

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 _____

Sat. Mar. 24:

10:00 a.m. TOY LIBRARY
6:00 p.m. DROP-IN CENTRE

Sun. Mar. 26: LENT FOUR

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

WILMOT SENIORS: Join us for our "Welcome to Spring" potluck luncheon Tuesday, March 21st at 12 noon in the parlour. Our special guests will be Kelly and Jacob Ebbett with some Irish dancing fun! What better way to rid ourselves of the winter blahs and say welcome to spring, than over a delicious meal with friends? All seniors and retirees are warmly welcomed.