

HASTINGS ROSENEATH PASTORAL CHARGE
The United Church of Canada
WORSHIP SERVICE March 31st 2019



Lent 4

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^MUSICAL PRELUDE: (Leader & Choir Enter)

(^) means, please stand as you are able,  
(Bold Print - Congregation Response)  
*LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCHES*

^CHORAL WORDS OF CALL: Sung to VU#372

*Let us press on, to know the Lord;  
as sure as dawn, God will appear.  
Like gentle showers, to us God comes;  
as rains of spring water the earth. (sung twice)*

^CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

A prodigal son went wandering and lost himself in a phony life.  
Humbled and ruined, he returned to ask to be his father's slave.  
But the old man came running and wrapped him in a hug.

*Lost as we may be, the love of God comes running.*

A scheming rascal duped his brother and tore the family apart.  
Wiser and more confident, he returned, fearing his brother's wrath.  
But his father came running and forgave him with a kiss.

*Unworthy as we may be, the love of God comes running.*

Whatever our failings and foibles, however we have fallen short,  
the mystery of grace forestalls our fate, and the love of God comes  
running.

*So we come running with lifted eyes and hearts,  
to worship God. (Rod Sykes, while at St. Andrew's U.C., Calgary, Alta.)*

^HYMN: VU#405 "New every morning"

OPENING PRAYER: (Rev. Jamie York)

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LENTEN CANDLE EXTINGUISHING: Journey with Jesus

WORDS OF MEDITATION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

HYMN OF ASSURANCE: (MV#85 Take, O Take Me as I Am)

*"Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me." (Three times)*

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Come Healing" (Roseneath)

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (R)

Reader: May God bless this reading for God's people today.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL: "Life with an eraser"

^HYMN: VU#716 "My life flows on"

GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (L)

Leader: In this reading is Good News for God's people.

People: May the Spirit of the Living God be with us today! Amen.

SERMON: "The Ultimate Second Chance Story"

^HYMN: VU#653 "Come let us to the God of love"

MINUTE FOR MISSION: "No one to notify"

^OFFERING AND DEDICATION: (In Unison) VU#603

*In loving partnership we come*

*seeking O God your will to do*

*Our prayers and actions now receive*

*we freely offer them to you.*

**^PRAYER of DEDICATION: (In Unison)**

*Patient and loving God,  
you are always ready to welcome us home,  
you are always ready to welcome our gifts  
so that the good news of Jesus Christ  
may be preached and lived in our time and place.  
This is why we give. Receive and bless our giving. Amen.*

**PASTORAL PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER**

**^HYMN: VU#112 "O God, how we have wandered"**

**^COMMISIONING: (Responsive)**

God has welcomed us home with open arms,  
and we have found our place in the family.  
*We leave thankful for the greeting we received  
and able to face the road ahead.*

As you go into the world,  
*We know the love of God surrounds us,  
the grace of Christ enfolds us,  
and the Holy Spirit gives us guidance, each day.*  
(Ryan McNally, St. Mark's U.C., Cannifton, Ont.)

**^BENEDICTION: Rev. Jamie York**

**^CHORAL BLESSING: (Go Now in Peace)**

*Go now in peace, never be afraid  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love and show you believe  
Reach out to others, so all the world can see  
God will be there, watching from above,  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
A-a-men, A-a-men, A-a-a-men (Don Besig & Nancy Price)*