

HASTINGS ROSENEATH PASTORAL CHARGE

The United Church of Canada

March 8, 2020-Lent 2-Holy Communion

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"GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME"

^MUSICAL PRELUDE: (Leader & Choir Enter)  
(^) means, please stand, (Bold Print - Congregation Response)  
*LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCHES*

^CHORAL INTROIT: (In Unison) (MV#18)  
*Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true;  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you. (twice over)*

^CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)  
God invites us into this place of safety and care.  
*God invites each of us by name as children of God.*  
Jesus invites Nicodemus to be reborn from above.  
*Jesus invites us to explore what rebirth is, or may be, to us.*  
Let us worship God in the Spirit of belonging and learning along the way.  
*Let us worship in the Spirit of faith in our Lenten season.*

^HYMN: VU#266 "Amazing Grace"

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Jamie York

LENTEN CANDLE EXTINGUISHING: Theme: Sorrow  
READING & CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

UNISON PRAYER:  
*God of the Lenten journey, as the smoke from this candle rises to greet you, may it take with it all our sorrows. Offer us this day a joy that moves beyond our doubt and within our grief. Remind us to rejoice in your love and mercy that your peace may guard our hearts and minds in this desert time. Amen.*

CHORAL WORDS OF GRACE MV#95 How deep the peace  
*"How deep the peace, the confidence,  
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.  
How deep the peace, the confidence,  
of those whose hearts are healed." (twice over)*

CHOIR ANTHEM: (Roseneath)

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 12:1-4a (Reader)  
Reader: May God bless this reading for God's people today.  
People: *Thanks be to God! Amen.*

FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL: "Sojourning"

^HYMN: VU#634 "To Abraham and Sarah"

SCRIPTURE READING: John 3:1-17 (Rev. Jamie York)  
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: "Transformed in Christ"

MINUTE FOR MISSION: "A Tiny Baby"

^OFFERING AND DEDICATION: (VU#538)  
*For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the spirit by which we live.  
We thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts... that we give.*

^PRAYER of DEDICATION: (In Unison)  
*Bless these gifts, O god, that they may be a sign of our  
ministry in your midst.  
Bless all whom these gifts provide for.  
In Jesus name we pray. Amen.*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

***Invitation to the Table: (Rev. Jamie York)***

***^HYMN: VU#457 “As we Gather at Your Table”***

***Communion Liturgy:***

May the God of Grace be with you.

***And also with you!***

May God keep your heart filled with hope and peace.

***And also you!***

Trust in the One who “Gave his only begotten Son”

***We lift our songs to the Saviour of the World.***

You went into the shadows of nothingness,  
bearing your Light of creation, God of all,  
so that life might burst forth where there was none:  
You blessed your children with creation's gifts  
so we might prove to be a blessing to others,  
but sin and death clouded our vision of You.  
Prophets responded to your call to them,  
daring to bring us those words we did not want to hear,  
calling us back to a way of life we had abandoned,  
but we thought we preferred life without You.  
For this reason, you sent Jesus into the world,  
so that along with all creation, we might be saved.  
With those who toss and turn in the night,  
with those who have responded to your call,  
we lift our thanksgivings to you:

***Holy, holy, holy are you, Who neither slumbers nor sleeps.***

***All creation blesses your glorious name.***

***Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed is the One who comes in Your name.***

***Hosanna in the highest!***

Holy One, you are the God of blessings,

and Jesus Christ is your Faithful One.  
The One who could truly boast,  
he humbled himself to become like us.  
The One who was truly righteous,  
he emptied himself to fill us with grace.  
The One who had spoken life into existence,  
he embraced death on the cross,  
that we might be justified through your grace and wonder.

As we continue on the journey to Jerusalem,  
as we seek to leave our comfortable lives to follow,  
we would talk about that mystery we call faith:

***Christ died, faithful to the end;  
Christ was raised, so all creation might be saved;  
Christ will come, to bring us to that home he will show us.***

What then are we to say, Keeper of our lives?  
It is your Spirit poured out upon us  
and upon the gifts of the Table which brings us new life.  
It is the brokenness of the bread which gives us life,  
that life emptied out for those who have no hope,  
for those who wander in the shadows.  
It is the grace of the cup which overflows with your gifts,  
so we might go to be a blessing to all forsaken by the world.

And when our journey has ended  
and we find ourselves in that land  
which you have prepared for us,  
we will sing our glad songs to you forever,  
Triune God, Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.

**PASTORAL PRAYERS & LORD’S PRAYER**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

*Welcoming God, we go now from the comfort of this place,  
having been nourished at Your Table. We will bring our faith  
to the world and carry the Light of Christ with us, wherever  
we go, trusting in you always. Amen.*

**^HYMN: VU#644 “I was there to hear your borning cry”**

**^COMMISSIONING: (Responsive)**

As we leave our place of worship this day to continue our  
Lenten journey.

*We know God’s love calls us into community to bless us.  
God’s love sends us out into community to be a blessing!  
We go forth from here in peace,  
Bringing the blessing of God within us, as we go.*

**^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)*