

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 26th 2017 – Transfiguration Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

*** Introit** **Through many days of darkness** VU 274 vs. 3

Through many days of darkness, through many scenes of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely to guard your people's life.
Their gospel of redemption, sin pardoned, earth restored,
was all in this enfolded: one church, one faith, one Lord.

*** Call to worship & Opening prayerⁱ**

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God.
We come to listen to what God has to say to us.

ALL: **God has invited us to this place;
may our faces reflect our hopes and our hearts.**

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God,
people of the new covenant of hope and promise.

ALL: **We boldly enter into the presence of God,
hoping to be transformed into new people.**

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God,
our fears melting away in the heart of God.

ALL: **We come to share in the freedom of the Spirit.
We come to praise God's holy name.**

*** Hymn** **Immortal, invisible, God, only wise** VU 264

Family time

Prayer of confessionⁱⁱ

ONE: God calls us into the presence of glory in these moments, not to judge and condemn us, but to forgive and set us free. Let us bring our prayers to God who longs to embrace us with mercy, as we pray saying,

ALL: **We may not actively conspire against you, gracious God, but we do make those conscious choices which draw us away from you. We fear ridicule from neighbours and co-workers, and so do not mention who you are in our lives.**

OT: Old Testament NT: New Testament VU: Voices United MV: More Voices

* the congregation standing, as able

ONE: We want to walk your path, but find ourselves going down rabbit trails which lead to trouble. We find it so easy to listen to the seductive words of our culture, but have trouble hearing your whispers of hope and healing. Forgive us, Revealer of mystery and wonder. Call us to that discipleship that is found on mountaintops in your presence, and in the valleys where we serve others in your name.

ALL: **As people of faith, we would not stay here, but follow Jesus the Christ into every place that longs for your glory and your grace, your strength as well as your gentleness. Amen.**

Response Lord, listen to your children praying VU 400

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

*Dieu, tes enfants te prient. Écoute, Dieu, remplis-nous de ton Esprit.
Dieu, tes enfants te prient. Écoute, toi l'amour, toi la grâce et la vie.*

Affirmation of graceⁱⁱⁱ

ONE: Listen! You are God's children, the beloved of God's heart. God speaks words of healing and hope to you in these moments. Listen!

ALL: **It is good to be here in the presence of the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*** Affirmation of faith**

*** Hymn We have come at Christ's own bidding VU 104**

Prayer for illumination

Solo Deep River

Readings Exodus 24:12-18 OT 186

Psalm 99 VU 819

Matthew 17:1-9 NT 5

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Getting down to it

Personal reflection

* Hymn Spirit, spirit of gentleness VU 375

Minute for mission

Offering

* **Offertory / Prayer of dedication** VU 385 vs. 4 (Eng.) – VU 386 vs. 4 (Fr.)

Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame;
let our whole life an offering be to our Redeemer's name.

*Inspire-nous, quand nous prions, pour prier comme il faut;
inspire-nous, quand nous parlons, un amour sans défaut.*

Announcements & sharing in the life of the Community

Prayers of the people & the Lord's Prayer

* Hymn Be thou my vision VU 642

* **Benediction**

Anthem Ride the Chariot (*W.H. Smith, arr.*)

Postlude

Plymouth-Trinity United Church

380 Dufferin Ave. Sherbrooke, QC, J1H 4M7

www.plymouthtrinitychurch.org / www.facebook.com/plymtrin

Ministers: All of us

Clergy: the Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho - 873 200-2011

Organist and Music Director: Leslie Young

Caretaker: Christopher Bryant

Board Chair: Jack Eby – jeby@ubishops.ca

Webmaster: Michael Eby – eby@trainiax.net

Secretary: Daniel Laplante – 819 346-6373

plymouthtrinitychurch@gmail.com

Office: Winter schedule (to April 30):

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8-11 AM

ⁱ *Seasons of the Spirit™ Seasons FUSION, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2016-2017*, Wood Lake Publishing Inc, p. 192. Used by permission.

ⁱⁱ *idem*, p. 193.

ⁱⁱⁱ *ibidem*.

News

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. On this Transformation Sunday, the gentle winds of the Holy Spirit blow on us and stay with us on top of the mountain as well as in the valley!

Bienvenue à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des Bibles en français sont disponibles à l'arrière.

If you are a visitor, please join us for fair-trade coffee or juice after the service and take a peace candle back to your congregation.

We thank our volunteers:

Reader: Vivienne Galanis

Ushers: Val Rawlings & Carol Smith

Sexton: Dave Fowlis

Fred Sangster Memorial Music Fund: We thank Maude Fréchette for singing for us again today, courtesy of this fund.

Happy birthday to Robert Stratton (February 26), Jim Innes & Collins Touoyem (March 3) and Ashley Coates (March 4).

This week

The secretary will not be in the office on Monday and Tuesday.

Ash Wednesday (March 1): This year, we celebrate in a very special way! 6-8:30 PM: imposition of ashes, light supper and free workshop with Vicky Boldo around the theme: "weaving together our stories: education for transformation." Vicky will speak of her healing journey as an Indigenous woman and facilitate a sharing circle. Please come and bring someone with you as we start the journey in Lent together.

E&O meeting on Thursday, March 2 at 1 PM in the parlour.

World Day of Prayer: This year's ecumenical celebration is at Plymouth-Trinity on Friday, March 3 beginning with a light potluck snack at 5 PM; service at 6.

Next week

Sunday, March 5 – First in Lent

Lectionary readings:

Genesis 2:15-3:7 – Psalm 32 – Romans 5:12-19 – Matthew 4:1-11

Le Service en français se tient à 9 h dans la chapelle; veuillez entrer par la porte donnant sur l'aire de stationnement.

English service at 10:30 AM.

Advance notices

Shamrock Tea and Bake Sale, Saturday, March 11 from 3 to 5 PM. Cost: \$9. Menu will consist of a variety of sandwiches, pickles, veggies and dip, cookies and squares. There will also be sales tables of home-baking, novelties, jams and pickles. Everyone welcome. Think green: Please bring a shopping bag for your purchases.

If you have any items for the Novelty table, please price them and get them to the church by 7 PM on Friday, March 10. Items for the bake table should also be priced and arrive before 2 PM on the 11th.

500th anniversary of the Reformation: Saturday, March 17, 9:30 AM – 3 PM. Journée spéciale sur la Réforme at Communauté chrétienne La Promesse, 715, Des Ormeaux, off Galt in the East ward (www.cclapromesse.org). This event will include the screening of the film *Luther* and lunch. No charge; all welcome.

Outreach

Lenten share calendar: If you weren't handed a copy of the 2017 Lenten share calendar, please pick one up before you leave. This year – in partnership with Lennoxville United – we're focussing on mental illness and raising money for Mental Health Estrie.

Lenten booklet, *The sanctuary for Lent 2017*: Copies of this Lenten booklet for daily devotions are available at the back and front of our sanctuary. Please take one, and if you can, leave a toonie (\$2) to cover the cost.

Mitten tree: Our mitten tree is still ready to receive fruit for HUGS (hats, underwear, gloves/mittens, socks/scarves for the homeless) - until Palm Sunday. HUGS is a project of Mental Health Estrie, the organisation to which we will be giving our Lenten donations; the Lenten share calendar will be distributed on February 26.

Moisson Estrie: *We don't give charity; we make a difference.* The local food bank tells us that every \$1 donation provides \$12 of food. Three years ago Moisson Estrie distributed 450,000 kg of food through 18 different organisations; last year the amount was 800,000 kg, worth \$4.4 million, through 32 organisations!

The food bank thanks Plymouth-Trinity for making a difference and reminds us cash is as appreciated as food. Our treasurers will credit all donations clearly marked "Moisson Estrie".

