

# Order of Worship

February 25, 2018  
Second Sunday of Lent  
Plymouth-Trinity United Church

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and greetings**

## **Acknowledging the land**

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Abenaki and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

## **\*Introit: God of the Bible**

MV 28 #2

God in our struggles, God in our hunger,  
suffering with us, taking our part,  
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,  
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.  
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.  
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.

## **\*Call to worship / Opening prayer**

**\*Hymn:** Throughout these Lenten days and nights

VU 108

## **Children's time**

## **Prayer of confession and affirmation of grace**

**Response:**

MV 90

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,  
my love is stronger than your fear.  
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger  
and I have promised, promised to be always near.

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OT: Old Testament

NT: New Testament

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

\* the congregation standing, as able

N'ayez pas peur, mon amour est plus fort,  
il est plus fort que votre peur.  
N'ayez pas peur, mon amour est plus fort;  
je vous ai promis, promis d'être toujours là.

**\*Affirmation of faith**

VU 918

**\*Hymn:** He came singing love

VU 359

## **Prayer for illumination**

### **Scriptures**

Genesis 17: 11-16

OT 13

Psalm 22: 23-31

VU 746

Romans 4: 13-25

NT 155

Mark 8: 31-38

NT 44

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

### **Personal reflection**

**\*Hymn:** O Master, let me walk with thee

VU 560

### **Minute for mission**

### **Offering**

**\*Offertory / Prayer of dedication**

VU 506 #1

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, all for thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

## **Announcements and sharing in the life of the Community**

### **Prayers of the people followed by the Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn:** To Abraham and Sarah

VU 634

**\* Benediction**

**\*Response: Amen!**

### **Postlude**

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The beautiful cover photograph that you see on today's Bulletin was taken by Martin Lunkenbein.

**Plymouth-Trinity United Church**

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# Announcements

**Welcome** to all who are worshipping with us today. On this second Sunday and for the whole journey in Lent, the gentle winds of the Spirit breathe on us a breath of compassion and self-examination, not self-deprecation.

**Bienvenue** à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des **Bibles en français** se trouvent à l'arrière.

**If you are a visitor**, please join us for fair-trade coffee or a cold drink after the service.

**We thank our volunteers:**

**Readers:** Denis Ashby and Vivienne Galanis

**Ushers:** Val Rawlings and Carol Smith

**Sexton:** Jim Innes

**Our sympathy** to Peter Woodman in the death of his mother, Dorothy (Neill), who died last week in her 95th year.

**Happy Birthday** to Ann Fowlis (Feb. 25), to Robert Stratton (Feb. 26), and to Jim Innes and Collins Touoyem (both on March 3).

*Today*

**Lenten Share Calendar:** This morning we welcome La Grande Table representative Sébastien Aubé, who will speak to us about the organisation for which we are raising money this Lent. For February 27: Those who are fortunate enough to have a family doctor should give 75 cents. Each day in our calendar features a question or acknowledgement. Proceeds to La Grande Table.

## *This week*

**Telling our stories:** Wednesday, February 28, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Our minister will share with us part of his life story. This could be the first of a series where we get to know each other better by telling our stories. All are welcome.

**World Day of Prayer,** March 2, Hope United Church will hold a World Day of Prayer service at Lennoxville's Grace Village (1515 Pleasant View, in the Training Room), from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Light refreshments will be served. An offering will be taken with donations sent to the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada ([www.wicc.org](http://www.wicc.org)). Also, at Eglise Notre Dame du Perpétuel Secours, 905 Ontario, in Sherbrooke, from 5 to 7 p.m.

## *Next week*

**Sunday, March 4:** 3rd Sunday of Lent. Bilingual communion service.

**Lectionary readings:** Exodus 20: 1-17; Psalm 29: 1-14; I Corinthians 1: 18-25 and John 2: 13-22.

## *In the community*

**DivorceCare:** Green Ridge Baptist Church will offer a 13-week program called DivorceCare. This support group, for those who are separated or have divorced from a spouse, offers expert advice, and open, non-judgemental sharing. People who have been there themselves lead it. DivorceCare is faith-based, but non-denominational. There is no cost. DivorceCare begins on Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at 47 Queen Street, Lennoxville (Green Ridge Baptist Church). Contact Diana at 819.238.8512

or zegpar@yahoo.ca, or Pastor Marc Potvin at 819.566.0831 or pastormarcp@outlook.com.

**Agriculture And Pesticides:** Dr. Marc Bélisle of the Biology Department at Université de Sherbrooke will speak at the next meeting of the St. Francis Valley Naturalists' Club, on February 28 at 7 p.m. He will present the results of studies designed to identify the impact of agricultural land use, prey availability and contamination by pesticides on the life of tree swallows. To be held at the Lennoxville Community Centre (10 Samuel Grantham St., right behind the Town Hall). Parking is free and there is an elevator.

**Soul of the Community — Building Neighbourhoods of Hope — 2.** How can we find new ways of being a church in our neighbourhoods? A morning workshop will engage in interactive case studies involving faith communities, and in the afternoon we will explore how faith communities contribute to the common good, and examine some of the struggles that faith communities face.. In this way, together, we build neighbourhoods of hope. Saturday, March 17, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Saint Columba House (2365 Grand Trunk, Montreal). All are welcome. Lunch provided. For more information and to RSVP, contact Patricia Lisson at 514-241-9036, or Lisa Byer-de Wever at 514-932-6202 ex.224. Sponsored by JGER Committee, Vision and Transformation Committee, Saint Columba House, EDGE Network of the United Church of Canada. If interested in attending, speak to the minister.

**Income tax clinics:** Yes, that time of year is coming around again. If you in a low-income tax bracket, two organizations offer inexpensive tax preparation services. Solutions Budget Plus is

located at 79 Wellington St. N., Suite 100, in downtown Sherbrooke, open Monday to Saturday starting in March. The cost is \$10 (cash) per person, and you can check your eligibility by calling 819.562.8656. Townshippers' Association is NO LONGER offering a clinic; instead, the service is being moved to Literacy In Action. This English-language community group is also located in Lennoxville, at 7 Connelly St. (J1M 1L8). They will be ready to meet with you as of March 12, and ask that people wait until then to give them a call for information, at 819-346-7009.

## Outreach

**Mitten tree:** Until Palm Sunday, hang your donated Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks/Scarves (or HUGS) on our tree. Toothbrushes and soap are also welcome! Mental Health Estrie prepares festive HUGS packages for homeless people, mostly adult men.

**Moisson Estrie:** There are boxes marked for the Moisson Estrie food bank at the front and back of the sanctuary. Please especially consider donating macaroni, spaghetti, flour, sugar, oil, peanut butter, canned fruit and vegetables.

Where do our donations go?

Food baskets: \$3 million worth of food to 30 organisations and 12 elementary schools; this represents 60 families per day!

Job training: Three work areas employ, for 26 weeks at a time, people who are trying to get back into the workforce.

Organisations assisted: Food banks in Asbestos, Coaticook, Cookshire, Lac Mégantic, Magog, Stanstead and Valcourt; popular eating places, e.g. La Chaudronnée and La Grande Table; community groups such as Le Journal de rue, Salvation Army, Centres pour femmes immigrantes...