

Service of Worship
Sunday, March 23, 2014 - LENT 3

"Living Water"

FROM HERE TO EASTER – A JOURNEY OF PRAYER

The season of Lent is a time to deepen our prayer life. The spiritual journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter is a journey that can bring us closer to the heart of God. To assist in this journey, you are invited to participate in specific prayer activities each week.

Week 3: Pray for your friends. Name them one by one and entrust them to God's care. Consider writing them a note to let them know of your prayer and good wishes.

**an invitation to rise in body or spirit, as you are comfortable*

Welcome & Sharing News or Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: The Light within all of life. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Opening Prayer (all)

God of Jesus, who shared our humanity, keep us company on this Lenten journey so that we may find the path to life in all its fullness. Amen.
(a jug is placed on the communion table)

Call to Worship

L: God, we come into your presence bringing our past, offering our present, and entrusting our future.

P: Thank you that you meet us now, in this place, at this time.

L: Jesus, we come into your presence with longings and "thirsting" that run deep in our spirits.

P: Thank you that you meet us now, in this place, at this time.

L: Holy Spirit, we give thanks that you are within and among us. May your truth and your grace illuminate our hearts and minds.

ALL: Thank you that you meet us now, in this place, at this time.

***Opening Hymn – 373 "As comes the breath of spring"**

Hymn - 766 "As the deer pants"

Children's Time and Lord's Prayer

Hymn – 964 *(sung to the children as they leave for Sunday School)*

"Go now in peace, go now in joy, may the love of God surround you, everywhere, everywhere, you may go."

Prayer of Confession

(silent prayer)

Assurance of Grace

Sung Response - "On Eagles' Wings"

And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of my hand.

Gospel Reading – based on John 4:5-42

Music for Meditation

Sermon - "Living Water"

Minute for Mission

The Offering & *Offertory 542 "We give you.."

***Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)

Liberating God, we offer you all that we are and shall be. Open our eyes and our hearts to recognize you in each person we meet. May we have courage to listen, courage to hear, and courage to act. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern

***Closing Hymn** – 626 "I heard the voice of Jesus"

***Sending Forth**

L: O Holy One, your grace flows into us;

ALL: may the new life that flows into us also flow through us;

L: Your truth sets us free;

ALL: help us to free others.

L: Your love brings us into life;

ALL: hallow our loving and our living.

***Sung Benediction** – 481 "Sent Forth By God's Blessing" vs. 2

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living;

the tasks of our everyday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,

embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your feast you feed us, with your light you lead us,

unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving,

give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Sources: "SpiritFusion Lent Easter 2014", Wood Lake Publishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Joint Service - Sunday March 30th

We will gather at North Derby UC at 10:30 am for a service to celebrate the UCW, and also conduct a ceremony to close the North Derby UCW after 51 years of faithful service to God, church and community. Lunch follows.

On Sunday **March 30th at 2 pm** all are welcome to Joan Whitney's home for the viewing of **The Butler**.

MARCH TOGETHER -- join others at the United Way, 380 9th St East, at **9 am on Saturday March 29th** for a "**MARCH TOGETHER**" to raise funds for local agencies providing support to low income people in Grey/Bruce. For more info: 519-376-1560 or fundraising@unitedwaybg.com