

We Come Together

Greeting

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: We come together to ask for courage:

All: To endure our fear and embrace love,

One: To endure our confusion and accept truth,

All: To endure our hesitancy and continue to hope.

One: We come to ask for the courage to witness new birth and allow our character to become holy.

All: We come to be more faithful disciples.

Opening Prayer: *(unison)*

God of goodness and life, we gather in the hope of this day, to be further opened along the pathways of faith you set before us. Be our journey and our destination. Question our safe decisions, prod our imaginings, and walk boldly beside us into the unknown, yet promised-filled future. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Blessed Assurance"

VU# 337

Personal Prayer: "Come and Fill Our Hearts" X 2 **MV# 16**

(Concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

Children's Learning Time: Measuring God's Love

Children's Prayer:

Thank you, God, for your love for us that is so big we can't measure it. Help us to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep your love really is. May we experience it, even though it is so great we will never fully understand it. Amen.

***Hymn:** "We are Pilgrims"

VU# 595

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Illumination:

Reader: Karen H.

God of signs and wonders, we come to your Word once more, seeking new understanding and the life it brings. May Your Spirit be with us in the reading of this Word, opening our hearts and minds to Your Love present with us even in the wilderness. **Amen.**

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a & John 3:1-17

Response: One: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God for this Holy Word.

Sermon "Journey through Change"

Anthem "Just as I Am"

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

We offer ourselves back to God to become the new hope of those who have lived with no hope; to become a new vision in a world that is content with old behaviours, old violence, old injustice. We offer ourselves back to God knowing we move in the shelter of God's wing as we become the people God desires. May our offerings become the seed of God's new creation.

Offertory Prayer: *(unison)*

Gracious God, we dedicate to You not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in deep gratitude for Your call in our lives, Your guidance in this Lenten journey and for blessing us, that we can be a blessing to others. Accept our offerings now and bless them to the building of Your great Kingdom. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "I Feel the Winds of God"

VU# 625

***Extinguishing our Lenten Light**

One: As we extinguish this first light of Lent, we do so knowing we journey in the shelter of God’s wing every step of the way.

Closing Prayer:

Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to Your steadfast presence and help us to put our trust in You as we follow where You lead. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** 'Lenten Response: May We Bring Hope''

Postlude

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Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Mar 5 Elizabeth **Mar 12** Tracy **Mar 19** Stephen

Ushers for the coming weeks:

Mar 5 Eleanor & Ensor **Mar 12** Bill R. & John **Mar 19** Kim & Kevin

This Week’s Events

Monday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Worship Meeting	Boardroom
Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
Wednesday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
Thursday	1:00pm	Bridge	Church Hall
Friday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall

Vacation Notice - Please note that Rev. Scott Stuart will be on vacation from March 1st – March 12th.

Office closed – on Monday, March 6th. Will reopen March 7th at 9am.

Lunch with friends - Thurs, March 16th @ noon. Sign up at the back of the church or in the office until Mon., March 13th at 1pm! We will only order the actual number of those who have signed up. If you are unable to attend the lunch after signing up, we encourage you to invite someone to take your place. The cost is \$7.00 payable at the lunch. Menu is ham and scalloped potatoes, plus dessert, tea and coffee. Entertainment is John Foster and Irish Music.

Mount Royal's Annual General Meeting will be held on March 19th at 10:30am. Printed copies of Annual report available on Sun, March 12th.

Food Donations - We are collecting non-perishable food items for the Alimentaire Peter McKee food bank the first Sunday of every month. Please bring your donations and leave them in the bin at the Bessborough door.

What do you wonder? - Do you wonder why something is in the Bible? How to put faith into action? Do you have an idea to share? There is an "I Wonder" box for those burning questions, bright ideas or mysteries. Write it down and place it in the box.

Book Study: "Building God's Beloved Community". Join us on Tues. March 14th at 1:30pm for the next book study.

Prayer concern? Contact Eleanor at 854-2578 or the church office at 855-5771.

Bulletin Dedication: Would you like to dedicate a bulletin in memory of a loved one? Recommended donation is \$25.

New phone number or address? Please let the office know of any changes.

Community Events:

Choeur Louisbourg Concert is being held at Mount Royal United Church on March 12th. Tickets will be available at the door.

Wanted! Crafters and bakers for a Crafts N' Cooking sale being held at Mountain View United Church on Sat, May 6, from 9am- 3 pm. To obtain a table, please call the church office at 857-4817. 6 ft tables are \$20; 8 ft tables are \$25.



At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey.

