



**Trinity – Clifton Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada**



March 11, 2018 10:30 a.m.

Our Lenten Journey: We Are Not Alone

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome

We are glad that you are here as a visitor, a seeker, someone looking for a new church home, or as a regular worshipper or member.

All are welcome in this place.

*Please rise as you are able.

The Gathering

Prelude Paul Vandergaag

Welcome Rev. Cathie Crooks

Procession of Lenten Symbols

Quiet Preparation for Worship

***Introit** Come and Fill Our Hearts MV #16

***Call to Worship**

We come from north, south, east and west to proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

We come carrying heartbreak and hope to proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

We come as children, full of exuberance and uncertainty,

to proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

We come as elders, bearing wisdom and exhaustion,

to proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

We come to worship and proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

***Hymn** We Praise You, O God VU #218

Opening Prayer

**God of the wanderer, be with us as we travel through
your Word today. Guide us to love and be loved.**

Amen

Hymn Jesus Bids Us Shine VU #585 Vs 1, 2

Children's Time

Hymn Jesus Bids Us Shine VU #585 Vs 3

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy light, as you bathe us in your radiant truth, you
reveal the tiny cracks and deep fissures that
compromise our hearts, our churches and our
communities. We see the suffering in the world, but
we choose apathy over justice, shame over mercy, and
fear over love. We turn our backs, close our borders,
and even harden our hearts to your children as they
cry out in pain and frustration and terror. And then we
blame the victims or the enemy and pretend
everything will be ok.**

Silence

Creating God, you molded us from sticky dust and holy breath, and you form us still. Redeem us, renew and remake us into agents of your healing grace, menders of broken hearts, and bearers of your love and justice. Amen

Words of Affirmation

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

The Word

Numbers 21:4-9

Sylvia Gunn

Psalm 107:1-9, 17-22

VU #831 Parts 1 & 2

John 3:14-21

Rev. Greg Davis

Anthem

Sermon

***Hymn** New Every Morning VU #405

Response to the Word

Offering Invitation

Offertory Imagine John Lennon

***Presentation of Offering** VU #149 vs 4
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

***Offering Prayer**

We praise you God of all nations, and offer these thanksgiving sacrifices, important to us because of their value, but important to you because of our value. May they be a sign of our true offering, which is our very lives. Transform these bits of metal, paper and card into your glory just as you transform our flesh and heart into your love. In Jesus' we pray, Amen

Pastoral Prayer

Sending Forth

***Hymn** We Are One VU #402 V 1, 2 & 4

***Commission and Benediction**

When you feel broken and afraid remember:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

When you feel lost and alone, remember:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

When you feel hopeful and peaceful, remember:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

When you feel joyful and loved, remember:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God love you, and God calls you to love. So remember:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

**Go forth from this place knowing that you are held in
God's steadfast love. Go forth and share that love
with all you meet.**

***Choral Amen**

Postlude

Paul Vandergaag

Portions of this morning's liturgy are adapted from **Seasons of the Spirit:** (Lent/ Easter 2018) and **Gathering, Resources for Worship Planners:** Celebrating 50 Years with A New Creed (Lent/Easter 2018, Year).

Greeters:

Head Greeter: Austin Bowman

North Side: Mark Richardson, Susan Willis, Harry Kielly

South Side: Mary Cowper-Smith, John Enman, Harry Hibbs

Balcony: David Younker, Kevin Jenkins

Ministers: All of Us

Clergy Team: Rev. Cathie Crooks & Rev. Greg Davis

Music Director: Donald Fraser

Office Administrator: Ellen Locke Doiron

Custodians: Lorraine Worth & Charles Baglolle

Web Page: www.trinityclifton.org **Email:** trinityunited@eastlink.ca

Phone: 902-892-4114 **Office Hours:** Mon. – Fri., 8:30 am – 3 pm

Announcements

Today's bulletins are in loving memory of Carol Evelyn Wonnacott McQuillan, presented by Don and Florence Wonnacott and family.

Sympathies of the congregation are extended to Gwyneth Jones & David White on the death of Gwyneth's brother John "Johnny" Jones.

Happy Birthday to Tim Cook on Mar. 13, to Jack MacPherson on Mar. 15, to Kira & Logan Duckworth on Mar. 16 and to Jean G. Burch & Charles Baglole on Mar. 17.

Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary to Rick Forsyth & Ginny McGowan. Please help them celebrate by enjoying some cake and ice cream at coffee and conversation after our service today.

Children and youth are invited to "**Walk Through Holy Week,**" on Palm Sunday, **Mar. 25.** Sunday School teachers, Godly Play Storytellers, children and youth will enact and hear the story of Holy Week. The Walk will begin in the Richmond Street hall, where participants will wave palm branches as Jesus passes through. The crowd will then follow Jesus to the Upper Room (upper hall) to celebrate the Passover (sharing of bread and juice) to the Garden of Gethsemane (chapel) where the story of Good Friday will be told, then to the cave to hear the good news of the angel.

Children and youth are asked to arrive at church by 10:15 a.m. to dress in costume.

Upcoming Trinity Events

Unit 5 UCW will meet on Tues., Mar. 13, 9 am in the parlour.

Worship Committee will meet on Tues., Mar. 13, 4:30 pm.

Finance Committee will meet on Wed., Mar. 14, 6 pm.

Stewardship Committee will meet on Wed., Mar. 14, 6:30 pm.

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast in support of Prince Street School Breakfast program will take place on Sat., Mar. 17 from 8:30 – 10:30 am. Tickets will be available after church at the Richmond St. door or in the office during the week. \$5 each and a family of 3 or more, \$15.

Bible Study: Mar. 13 through Mar. 27: A study of women in the Bible will continue with **Living the Questions: Uppity Women of the Bible**, as we explore together the Book of Esther. Rev. Cathie will lead this series in the parlour, each Tuesday at noon.

Other Church and Community Events

Fundscrip – Gift cards for gas, groceries, movies, books, clothes and more can be purchased with cash or cheque before and after our service each Sunday or in our church office during the week. Use them yourself or give as gifts – a great way to help our church as we receive a percentage from the sale.

Available Cards:

Gas - all stations **Groceries** - all stores **Office** - Staples
Health - Lawtons, Shoppers **Entertainment** - Indigo, Cineplex
Apparel - Payless Shoes, Claires, Aldo, Marks Work Wearhouse, Old Navy, GAP, Le Chateau **Children** - Toys R Us, Children's Place
Department Stores - Hudson Bay, Winners, Walmart
Electronics - Best Buy, The Source
Home and Garden - Home Furniture, Stokes, Home Sense, Home Hardware, Canadian Tire, Home Depot
Restaurants – Tim Hortons, Pizza Hut, Boston Pizza, Wendys, KFC, Harveys, Starbucks, Swiss Chalet, Subway, Montanas
Other - Pet Smart, SportChek, Running Room, Best Western, Fairmont Hotels, Giant Tiger

Loblaw Card Program

A wonderful opportunity has been identified to help support a variety of interests in our Trinity-Clifton Church Community – we are inviting each eligible adult in our congregation along with their family & friends to participate in the Loblaw Card Program.

The \$25 Loblaw gift cards will be donated to offset expenses for Camp Abeqweit, Prince Street School Breakfast Program, Anderson House, Bedford MacDonald Emergency Homeless Shelter, the Salvation Army and local Food Banks - to name a few. Of course, the extent of this support depends directly on the number of applicants we can reach with this request.

To be eligible you need only to have purchased packaged bread products at a Loblaw grocery store (known locally as Superstore or No Frills) before March 1, 2015. Each \$25 Loblaw Card can be used to purchase items sold at Loblaw grocery stores across Canada.

Interested applicants are being encouraged to register online at www.LoblawCard.ca and the gift card will be mailed to your home address, which can be dropped off at the church office or enclosed in your Weekly Offering envelope. As many do not have access to a computer nor an email address, we have received permission to gather and submit actual paper application forms in bulk. Once these non-electronic applications are processed, the \$25 Loblaw's Cards will be mailed directly to the church office and considered as Gift-in-Kind donations.

The deadline for registration is May 8, 2018 and most importantly, please note, this offer APPLIES to one per eligible adult - NOT limited to one per household!!

Copies of the application and information will be made available in the foyer today and in upcoming events and gatherings.

Trinity-Clifton Vision Statement

We, the Trinity-Clifton Christian family, believe that God has blessed us with diversity, including diversity in sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, age, ability and faith. We believe that Jesus challenged boundaries by reaching out to all people, welcoming and honouring all in their uniqueness.

We publicly declare our commitment to openness, growth, action, and education, honouring diversity and challenging injustice in solidarity with those who experience discrimination.

We offer our resources and talents with open hands and hearts in love and service to all as we work for reconciliation and justice locally, regionally, and globally.



