



Annual Congregational Meeting  
Third Sunday in Lent - C  
March 20, 2022

## Key Scripture - Luke 1:38

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



## Theme - The Long Wait

**This Morning's Service will not be Televised, as it is also our Annual Congregational Meeting.** The following represents the Worship Components of the Service minus the Planned Details of the Annual Meeting.

### Welcome and Announcements

- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † Our Hymn Books and Pew Bibles are back in place
  - We have hand-sanitizer for folk to use before and after handling common use resources.
- † Regular office hours are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday.

### Looking Ahead

**21 March** - Book Study, Two Steps Forward. [Remote Meeting](#)

**23 March, 9:30am** - Lenten Study, Lesser Evils. [Remote Meeting](#)

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** appreciates donations, please fill our wagon at the back of the Sanctuary, it will be delivered monthly.

[Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality](#) offers numerous courses that may be of interest as you explore and deepen your faith.

### **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

**Introit**            MV 14 "Where Two or Three are Gathered"

Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there, I am there

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

#### **Call to Worship**

Seek the Lord while God may be found. Call upon God who is near.  
**We will return to the Lord our God.**

God's thoughts are not our thoughts. God's ways are not our ways.  
**We come, seeking new paths to follow.**

As the heavens are higher than the earth so are God's ways higher than ours.

**We come as pilgrims on the journey, praising God along the way.**

**Let us worship God with thankful hearts!**

## Prayer of Gathering

Creator and Sustainer,

In you we live and move and have our being.

In your depths we find meaning; in your heights we find light and joy.

You are the source of peace and hope for all who turn to you.

You alone have been our help and our guide;

you give us strength and courage when we face challenges.

In you we find rest and welcome along the way.

We praise you, O God, for your steadfast love.

Draw near to us once more in this time of worship.

Reveal your purposes for us

and prepare us for the days ahead

so that our lives may witness to your mercy and grace  
as we follow Jesus.

## Lenten Candle Liturgy

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of violence in Ukraine, the world and to the Earth.

(A candle is extinguished.)

Let us pray -

**Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Hymn** 658 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

O Love that wilt not let me go,

I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
my heart restores its borrowed ray,  
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain,  
that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
and from the ground there blossoms red  
life that shall endless be.

## **Learning With Children**

### **Scripture Luke 1:26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have

found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

**Anthem** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

**Reflection** The Long Wait

**Opening the Court**

**Election**

**Operating Procedures**

**Corrections**

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Business Arising From the Minutes**

**Invitation to Offering**

God has given us life and breath, and created a world of beauty and order.

In Christ we know God’s generous mercy.

Our gifts are tokens of gratitude for all that we have received in Christ and in creation.

May our gifts speak for our thankful hearts this day.

**Offertory Hymn** MV 10 "Come And Seek The Ways of Wisdom"

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,  
she who danced when earth was new.  
Follow closely what she teaches,  
for her words are right and true.  
Wisdom clears the path to justice,  
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,  
crying in the marketplace.  
Hear the Word made flesh among us,  
full of glory, truth, and grace.  
When the word takes root and ripens,  
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;  
nurture all who seek rebirth.  
Spirit-guide and close companion,  
bring to light our sacred worth.  
Free us to become your people,  
holy friends of God and earth.

**Offering Prayer**

Loving God, accept our gifts, we pray.  
Bless them and use them to inspire peace in places of unrest,  
love in places of resentment, joy in places of fear, and hope in  
places of loss,  
all for the sake of Jesus, our friend and Saviour. Amen

**Reports, Approval of  
Financial Review  
Financial Reports 2021  
Church Budget for 2022  
Business Arising from Church Budget 2022**

**Prayers of the People**

*Response -*

O God, give us hope in our time.  
**Turn our hearts to you.**

God of Hope,

When the world is confusing and frustrating,  
you bring light and hope.

We give you thanks for lessons learned, for changes of heart,  
for fresh discoveries made, and new paths followed,  
even during these months of pandemic.

We pray this day for those who are confused or afraid.  
for those who feel anger or despair.

God of Peace,

There is conflict, hostility, and antagonism  
around us and within us.

Personal relationships are often tense; the world  
community is at odds.

We pray for understanding to prevail  
in relationships at home and at work,  
in our community and our country.

And we pray for diplomacy to end conflict and threat  
among nations

O God, give us peace in these times.

**Turn our hearts to you.**

God of Joy,

We give you thanks for moments of joy and celebration in our lives,  
for small pleasures given and received through times of  
isolation.

We remember those who feel left out or bitter,  
those who are anxious or in distress.

We pray for those who face loss and hardship in these uncertain  
times,

and all who know sorrow and suffering,  
naming before you those on our hearts this day.

O God, give us joy in our time.

**Turn our hearts to you.**

God of community and compassion,

We thank you for your steadfast presence  
in the face of all that brings uncertainty and worry these days.

Bless our congregation and every church that is struggling;  
inspire us to consider renewed ministry and mission  
after months of restricted gatherings.

Reawaken our love for one another

and our desire to worship and serve together in Jesus' name.

Sustain leaders who feel exhausted by the challenges they've faced  
and renew our stewardship with gratitude for your love.

O God, give us strength in our service.

**Turn our hearts to you.**

God of Grace,

Receive these prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts.

Deepen our trust in you for the days ahead,



for we offer ourselves as Jesus' friends and followers in the words he taught us -

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn**      MV 82 "Bathe Me In Your Light"

Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;  
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.  
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,  
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.

Bathe me in your love, O Source of Awe and Wonder;  
help me walk the sacred path of harmony and peace.

May I be attentive to the musings of your presence,  
drinking from the well of hope that brings the heart release.

Bathe me in your grace, O One of Spirit's longing;  
teach me of your gentle ways that fill the soul with strength.  
Guide me on the pilgrimage that leads to truth and wholeness,  
Fill me with your promise of a love that knows no length.

**Church Council**

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**

### **We Depart to Serve With Joy**

**Hymn** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
Feed me now and evermore;  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.  
When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,

Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
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## **Commissioning/Benediction**

*Trinity United Church is a Christian community that  
explores and shares its faith  
in an open-minded dialogue.*

*Living out the love of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ,  
we grow spiritually as we  
connect with,  
inspire and  
serve our community and beyond.*

We will ... Connect ~ Inspire ~ Serve

**Choral Amen**