



First Sunday in Lent - C  
March 6, 2022

## Key Scripture - Luke 4:8

"It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"



Theme - Toxic Power

## Welcome and Announcements

- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † We are open for in person worship.
- † 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.
- † Our building is open during the regular office hours of 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday.

## Looking Ahead

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

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

**7 March, 10:00 am** - The UCW will be meeting in the Church Hall to welcome our incoming President, Brenda Swan and recognize the service of our outgoing President, Linda Stronski. All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

**14 March, 10:00am** - Property Team. We will be identifying areas where

we should concentrate on investing funds to achieve energy savings. Grant funds will be available to assist with costs through our partnership with Greening Sacred Spaces[GSS]/Faith and the Common Good[FCG].

On the **14th of March, Thursday, at 6:00 pm** we will get together for - **National Affirming/PIE Day** in the Fellowship Hall.

National Affirming PIE Day is a simple way to celebrate our becoming an Affirming Congregation.

As the name suggests, it is a pie potluck. We are invited to serve up some pie and roll out the PIE in our ministries and communities! This is our chance to celebrate and honour the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in faith communities and beyond, with everyone across Canada!



**20 March, 10:30am** - Annual Congregational 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

**Interlude**      MV 7 "Gather Us In"

Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, gather us in,  
ground us, ground us, in you.

**Call to Worship**

We live in the shelter of the Most High,  
**We abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**

Let us worship God who is our refuge and our strength,  
**For God is the One in whom we trust.**

The Lord will deliver us from the perils that threaten us.  
**Under God's wings, we will find refuge and not be afraid.**

So let us praise God, in song and in silence, with thankful hearts!  
**We will worship God with heart, mind, soul and strength, now  
and always.**

**Opening Prayer**

God of our living and our loving,  
We rejoice in your grace and mercy which has called creation into  
being,  
and makes all life complete.  
We praise you for Jesus  
who reveals your loving purposes for all people;  
in his face we glimpse your love;  
in his life we see the pattern for our lives.  
We bless you for the Holy Spirit

who guides us and strengthens us,  
drawing us into the embrace of your tender love.

And so we praise you, O God,  
our eternal, creating parent,  
united with Jesus, our Friend and Brother,  
and your Holy Spirit, the breath of life,  
Three in One, now and always.

**Amen.**

### **Lenten Candle Liturgy**

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of  
injustice in the world.

(A candle is extinguished.)

Let us pray -

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. **Amen.**

**Hymn** He's Got the Whole World In His Hands"

He's got the whole world

In his hands

He's got the whole wide world

In his hands

He's got the whole world

In his hands

***He's got the whole world in his hands.***

He's got the tiny little baby  
In his hands.

He's got the tiny little baby  
In his hands.

He's got the tiny little baby  
In his hands.

***He's got the whole world in his hands.***

He's got you and me brother  
In his hands

He's got you and me, sister  
In his hands

He's got everybody here  
In his hands

***He's got the whole world In his hands.***

## **Time With Children**

### **Children's Prayer**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty and most merciful God,**

**We confess that we have sinned against you  
in things we have done,  
and things we have neglected to do.**

**We have held back from giving  
to protect what we have.**

**We have not trusted in your goodness  
and relied on the world's empty promises instead.**

**Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall become.**

**Help us to serve you  
by serving your world with generous spirits.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Hear and believe the good news!

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life is gone.

The new life has come.

Know that you are forgiven, and so, in Christ, forgive one another.

**Scripture**            Deuteronomy 26:1-11;  
                              Psalm 91 (VU807)  
                              Romans 10:8b-13;  
                              Luke 4:1-13

### Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God

of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalm 91 (VU807)

*Refrain -*

*“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.”*

You who dwell in the shelter of your God,  
who abide in God's shadow for life,

**say to your God: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”**

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear:

**under God's wings your refuge,  
God's faithfulness your shield.**

*Refrain -*

*“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.”*

You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;  
**though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come.**

For to the angels is given a command to guard you  
in all your ways;  
**upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

*Refrain -*

*“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.”*

“Because they have set their love upon me I will deliver them,  
**I will uphold them because they know my name.**  
When they call to me I will answer,  
**I will be with them in trouble;**  
I will rescue and bring them to honour.  
**With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my saving power.”**

*Refrain -*

*“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.”*

Romans 10:8b-13;

“The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’

and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**Meditation**    "Deep River" (traditional)

**Reflection**    Abuse of Power

**Hymn**    357 "Tell Me The Stories of Jesus"

Tell me the stories of Jesus  
I love to hear;  
things I would ask him to tell me  
if he were here;  
scenes by the wayside,  
tales of the sea,  
stories of Jesus,  
tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children  
stood round his knee;

and I shall fancy his blessing  
resting on me;  
words full of kindness,  
deeds full of grace,  
all in the love-light  
of Jesus' face.

Tell me, in accents of wonder,  
how rolled the sea,  
tossing the boat in a tempest  
on Galilee;  
and how the Master,  
ready and kind,  
chided the billows,  
and hushed the wind.

Into the city I'd follow  
the children's band,  
waving a branch of the palm-tree  
high in my hand;  
one of his heralds,  
yes, I would sing  
loudest hosannas!  
Jesus is King!

Show me that scene in the garden  
of bitter pain;  
and of the cross where my Saviour  
for me was slain.  
Sad ones or bright ones,  
so that they be  
stories of Jesus,  
tell them to me.

## **Invitation to the Offering**

We all have something to share. As we present our offering this morning, know that what we share enables the Church to meet needs, offer hope, and work for the justice Jesus proclaimed.

**Offering Options** Offerings can be made several ways -

- E-transfers through the bank to [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca)
- by mail OR by delivery to church office by prearranged time
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

## **Offering Prayer**

Generous God, we thank you for all the goodness we receive in Christ and in creation.

Bless the gifts we offer to share in the work of the kingdom and bless our lives

so that we may be witnesses to his love and mercy.

Amen

**Hymn** 675 "Will Your Anchor Hold"

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?

When the clouds unfold their wings of strife,  
when the strong tides lift and the cables strain,  
will your anchor drift or firm remain?

**Refrain -**

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,  
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

It will surely hold in the straits of fear,  
when the breakers tell and the reef is near;  
though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,  
not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow?

**Refrain -**

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,  
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

It will surely hold in the floods of death,  
when the waters cold chill our latest breath;  
on the rising tide you can never fail  
while our hopes abide within the veil.

**Refrain -**

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,  
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

When our eyes behold, through the gathering night,  
the city of gold, our harbour bright,  
we shall anchor fast by the heavenly shore,  
with the storms all past for evermore.

***Refrain -***

***We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,  
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!***

**Prayers of the People**

God of grace,  
You are our Judge and our Hope.

Transform us with your love and harness our energy for your  
purposes in the world  
into which Christ came.

Hear us as we pray for the world, the church and our community:

We pray for the earth as your creation,  
staggering under the demands of human activity and  
expectation.

May this planet, our home, be held in reverence in every  
culture.

Where we are tempted to use resources carelessly,  
where human lifestyles endanger homes and habitats of other  
peoples or other species,  
where immediate gain tempts people to give no thought for the  
future,

send your wisdom to guide citizens and decision makers to  
act responsibly.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church facing the challenges of rebuilding ministry and mission  
amid the uncertainties created by the pandemic.

Where congregations are tempted to guard traditions and resist new possibilities,  
where members magnify differences instead of celebrating our unity in Christ,  
where energy for leadership and community life has grown weaker,  
send your healing and transforming grace.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for relationships suffering under the stress of prolonged pandemic restrictions.

Where families are tempted to nurse grudges and harbour complaints,  
where friendships have been wounded by misunderstanding or neglect,  
where workplace tensions have arisen over clashing opinions or exhausting demands,  
send your reconciling and restoring mercy.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world filled with increasing threats and conflicts.

Where countries are torn by unrest and persecution,  
where communities are diminished by prejudice and discrimination,  
where those with power and authority degrade or dismiss their critics,  
empower those who work for just solutions and advocate for the powerless.

We continue to pray for those who were impacted  
by the legacy of Indian Residential Schools.

We ask you to hold the people of Ukraine deep in your heart.  
Protect them, we pray;  
from violence,  
from political gamesmanship,  
from being used and abused.

Give, we pray,  
the nations of the world the courage  
and the wisdom  
to stand up for justice  
and the courage too,  
to dare to care—generously.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Take from us all  
the tendencies in us  
that seek to lord it over others:  
take from us those traits  
that see us pursuing our own needs and wants  
before those of others.

Teach us how to live in love  
and dignity  
and respect—following your example.  
In your name and for your sake,

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are troubled and find it hard to face these uncertain times,

we pray for those who face illness or loss of any kind,

for those challenged by economic hardship,

and for those faced with the reality of death, their own or of someone dear.

In silence, we name those on our hearts this day:

Embrace each one with your compassion and courage.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Even as we remember the many challenges around us,

we give you thanks for the blessings we know,

for moments of pleasure,

for laughter shared,

for conversations that brightened a day.

Thank you for your steadfast love

and the comfort we draw from your presence with us in all things.

And now we offer together the prayer Jesus taught -

**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.**

### [EOORC Prayer Cycle](#)

**Lyn: Christ Church Pastoral Charge**  
Christ Church United

### [The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle](#)

**Ireland; United Kingdom: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland,  
Wales**

**We Depart to Serve with Joy**

**Hymn 375 "Spirit of Gentleness"**

***Refrain -***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
Blow thro' the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.***

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons you called to each thing:  
Wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

*Refrain -*

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
Blow thro' the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,  
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

*Refrain -*

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
Blow thro' the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill;  
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
And down in the city you called once again,  
When you blew thro' your people on the rush of the wind.

*Refrain -*

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
Blow thro' the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
With bold new decisions your people arise.

**Benediction**

Now let us go from this place of haven  
God has given to us.

**Led by the Spirit, we will go to be with those  
who are filled with fears, with hopes.**

Now let us go from the refuge of the Table  
where we have tasted the first fruits of grace.

**Led by the Spirit, we will go to feed  
those who hunger for companionship and life.**

Now let us go into the world, living out God's reality  
that there is no distinction between people.

**Led by the Spirit, let us go to serve  
our sisters and brothers who are our true family.**

**Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Solace" (Joplin)