

Thanks to Mary Lou Haskell for reading and to the ladies of the UCW for providing lunch today.

Happy Birthday today to Micheal Tiplady and later this week to Mary Fournier and Heather Davidson

Happy Anniversary this week to Megan & Mark Luckhardt

Join us for this year's **Annual Congregational Meeting** after the service this morning. *All are welcome to attend!*

UCW Soup Sale - Sunday March 1st after the service.
\$4.00 & \$8.00 sizes.

UCW Meeting -Tuesday, March 3rd at 1pm at the church.
All ladies are welcome.

The Great Irish Stew is coming!!! on Friday March 13th from 5-7pm Tickets: \$20/adult ; \$5/children (12 & under)
Tickets will be on sale shortly
and can be reserved by calling the church.

If you are interested in becoming **an official member of the church** please speak with Rev Ryan or email revryanfea@tecumsehunited.com. To confirm whether or not you are an official member please contact Heather.

Office Hours ~ Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am-2pm

Donations can be made by simple e-transfer to donations@tecumsehunited.com



Tecumseh United Church
~ *An Affirming Congregation* ~

Sunday, February 22nd, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

We are a fragrance-free environment. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples

First Sunday in LENT

* Please adopt the posture that best suits you for singing/unison prayer

We Gather in God's Love

Welcome and Announcements
Territorial Acknowledgement
Lighting the Christ Candle

Honouring Black History – Elladj Baldé

In the wilderness of suffering and displacement, he chooses compassion over power and presence over spectacle.

Call to Worship:

This is the beginning of a journey. Welcome to the start line!

We know the journey will be difficult, but we come to it each year with a commitment to journey through to the end.

Know that you do not journey alone.

There is a community of those who have journeyed this path before us:

Generations of people who have sought to love as God has commanded.

Ancestors who have carried this story to our imaginations and hearts.

While it is a path that does not follow the currents of our human society,

it is a path well worn by the people who have come before us,

risking, opening themselves, planting seeds of hope, and praying together.

We join them on this Lenten journey.

***Hymn # 108 “Throughout These Lenten Days & Nights”**

Lent 1 (Six candles are lit, as well as the Christ candle)

We suffer when we do not know who we are.

We are constantly tempted by the seduction of power, the glamour of wealth, and ego-gratifying attention.

We are drawn into these temptations because we forget who we are and *whose* we are.

When we forget that we are created in God’s image, we lose our connection to our soul and to our God.

Like fish out of water, we lose our connection to that which gives us life.

We then live with consequences, which are hard to bear, for ourselves, for our society, and for our world.

(The first candle is extinguished)

Hymn MV #90 “Don’t Be Afraid”

*Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.*

*Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised, promised to be always near.*

Let us pray:

O God, we really do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Feed us with your wisdom and your truth. Quench our deepest thirst to find the peace that you offer to us. In this journey of Lent, travel with us as we seek to find our true self, the self you have created us to be. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Loving God, as we enter the season of Lent, we are conscious that Jesus set his path steadfast toward Jerusalem, because his focus was strong on how

to live his life. We often consider Lent as a time of restraint, pulling back, but for Jesus, it was a time of moving forward with a strong vision. We often consider it a time of navel-gazing, but for Jesus, it was a time of reaching out.

And so, in these 40 days, we are reminded that Lent, for Jesus and for you, O God, is all about love, daring to notice the needs of people about us, and daring to care for your world.

May the Lenten season be for us, too, a reaching-out time more than a cutting-back time. May it be a season of love, just like it was for Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn # 649 “Walk With Me”**

Faith Friends / The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn # 585 “Jesus Bids Us Shine” verse 1

We Listen to God’s Word

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

*** Hymn MV # 65 “When We Are Tested”**

Meditation

We Respond to God’s Word

Choir Anthem

Mission Story

The Offering

Offertory Hymn # 540 “Grant Us God, the Grace”

Prayers of the People / Prayer Book is read

We Go to Love and Serve God

*** Hymn # 421 “Lead On, O Cloud of Presence”**

Commissioning & Benediction

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