



Tecumseh United Church
~ *An Affirming Congregation* ~
Sunday, March 8th, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.
3rd LENT / P.I.E. Day / International Women's Day

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

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

We Gather in God's Love

Welcome and Announcements / Land Acknowledgement

Video ~ A Message from the Moderator

***Hymn MV #1 "Let Us Build a House"**

Lent 3

(four candles are lit, as well as the Christ candle)

We live in a world of many divisions: class, gender, religion, race, and politics.

It is not easy to risk our vulnerabilities in order to get to know someone who seems different.

Though God welcomes all peoples, invites the gifts of all nations, and celebrates the uniqueness of each culture, we live in poverty when we remain separated.

Our lines of separation diminish our togetherness and diminish our humanity.

Like the Samaritan woman at the well, we are thirsty for a drink that will quench our deepest yearnings.

We long to drink deeply at the well.

Yet we remain thirsty and we live a life of quiet desperation.

(the third candle is extinguished)

Hymn MV #90 "Don't Be Afraid" (sing twice)

*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:

God, like the woman at the well, many know what it is to be judged, excluded, or mistrusted-because of skin colour, accent, gender, ability, culture, sexual orientation, or circumstance. Yet you meet us with dignity and grace.

Where others exclude, you welcome.

Strengthen us to stand with those pushed aside and to build a community where all belong.

Amen.

Call to Worship:

If you come troubled, may you find peace; if lonely, may you find friendship; if in doubt, may you find faith; if happy, share your joy with others.

We welcome all persons of all ages, genders, racial or ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, differently - abled conditions, economic or cultural backgrounds who seek to live in faith; and we affirm that they are all full participants in the life, work, and celebration of this community of faith.

(Prairie To Pine Affirming Ministry Service, May 30, 2021)

~ Why Did You Come Here? ~

***Hymn MV #145 "Draw the Circle Wide"**

Faith Friends

Lord's Prayer

Hymn MV # 37 "Each Blade of Grass," verse 1

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture Reading: John 4:5-29, 39-42

***Hymn MV #138 "My Love Colours Outside the Lines"**

Meditation

We Respond to God's Word

Choir Anthem

Mission Story

The Offering

Offertory Hymn # 551 "For Food in a World"

Prayers of the People:

**Creator of all,
we bring our joys and our sorrows before you.
In the wilderness of this world,
many face discrimination, fear, and exclusion.
Yet you are leading us toward a new way.**

**We give thanks for life, love, allies,
and the beautiful diversity of your creation.**

**We pray for all who face discrimination and for those who
are told that they must hide who they are to be safe.
Make our communities a temple of belonging,
where women, visible minorities, and 2S & LGBTQAll+
people, all of your children, are fully welcomed and
celebrated.**

**You call us to care for one another, and we lift the joys and
concerns of this your community as we pray**

(Prayer Book is read)

**Lead us up the mountain of justice and hope,
where every person is safe, valued, and free to live as who
they are. Help us see one another as siblings, all your
beloved children. Strengthen us to confront injustice and
build a world where all are safe, equal, and welcome.**

Amen.

(adapted from Prairie to Pine Regional Gathering 2020, based on a prayer by Ruth Wood,
"Speaking Our Truth")

We Go to Love and Serve God

***Hymn "We Are a Rainbow"**

Commissioning & Benediction

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