

PRELUDE

WELCOME & INVITATION

LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH: (*Announcements*)

LIGHTING OF PEACE CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

**Creating God, still centre of the world,
we come to you in this season of Lent
aware of lives lived between disappointment and hope.
We do not always know how to seek you with our whole hearts
but we know that you are our source and our destiny.
Nurture us in this time, and ready us
to take your Love into the world. Amen.**

* **HYMN: “Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights”**
(#108 vs. 1-4 VU)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**God, you call us to be pilgrims, following the way of Jesus.
Forgive us when we weary of the journey and seek security
rather than the open road of your love and liberty.
Forgive us when we are too afraid to risk:
walk with us a while and give us courage.
We pause in silence to consider
our fears and our failings:
- *Silent Prayer* -**

**Grant us pilgrim spirits in this Lenten season,
and lead us toward the new life of Easter.
For Love’s sake. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

God has compassion for our fears and failures.
**Thanks be to God who carries us always
within her womb.**

SUNG REFRAIN: “Don’t be Afraid” (MV #90)

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

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THEME CONVERSATION

***HYMN: “Jesus Came, a Child like Me”** (#583 VU)

SCRIPTURE: **Isaiah 58: 5-9**

5 Do you think this is the kind of fast day I'm after: a day to show off humility? To put on a pious long face and parade around solemnly in black? Do you call that fasting, a fast day that I, God, would like? **6** "This is the kind of fast day I'm after: to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts. **7** What I'm interested in seeing you do is: sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families. **8** Do this and the lights will turn on, and your lives will turn around at once. Your righteousness will pave your way. The God of glory will secure your passage.

9 Then when you pray, God will answer. You'll call out for help and I'll say, 'Here I am.' A Full Life in the Emptiest of Places "

Matthew 19:13-15

One day children were brought to Jesus in the hope that he would lay hands on them and pray over them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus intervened: “Let the children alone, don’t prevent them from coming to me. God’s kingdom is made up of people like these.” After laying hands on them, he went on his way.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

9:15am – “This Lonesome Valley” – Senior Choir

11am - “I Can Hear the Savior Calling”

– McClure Place Choristers

REFLECTION

RESPONSE

THE OFFERING

***HYMN: “Today We All Are Called to be Disciples”** (#507 VU)

***OFFERTORY: “The Church is Wherever” (#579 VU vs. 2)**

The church is wherever God’s people are helping,
caring for neighbours in sickness and need.

The church is wherever God’s people are sharing
the words of the Bible in gift and in deed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe?

The way of your justice be followed

by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our
hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

***HYMN: “Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song” (#641 VU)**

***SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING:**

“May you run and not be weary” (#641 W&P)

May you run and not be weary.

May your heart be filled with song.

And may the love of God continue
to give you hope and keep you strong.

And may you run and not be weary.

May your life be filled with joy.

And may the road you travel
always lead you home.

McCLURE UNITED CHURCH

McCLURE
United Church

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McCLURE
United Church

Rev. Debra Berg, Rev. Laura Fohse, Rev. Brian Walton
Shirley Blackburn - Music Co-ord, Elin Sletmoen - Pianist



March 10, 2019

McClure United Church acknowledges as we worship here today,
we are gathered in the traditional territory of the Cree, Salteaux,
and Assiniboine First Nations and Homeland of the Metis,
in the area most recently defined, as Treaty 6.

And we also acknowledge that McClure United Church, as an Affirming
Ministry of the United Church of Canada, is one that embraces diversity
and strives to include and be a safe place for all people.