

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us join in 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 and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*\*CLOSING HYMN:** VU # 424 "May the God of Hope Go with Us. "

## BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

Leader: May the blessing of God give us strength for the journey; may the Spirit of wisdom give us vision for the road, may the love of Christ make us caring companions, as together we go forth in the Lenten time. (See Celebrates God's Presence SX002)

**All: We go forth knowing that Christ who is in the wilderness will travel with us day and night. We are not afraid. Amen!**

Beaverlodge-Wembley-Hythe Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada

403-10<sup>th</sup> Street, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

**First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 2024**

**MINISTER:** Rev. Dr. Dorcas Kanana Muketha

**PIANIST:** [B] Shirley Preuss [W] Gwen Richardson

## WELCOME

Leader: Let us come with preparedness to set ourselves to observance and repentance.

**All: We come to renew and refocus our minds and hearts.**

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LIGHTING OF CANDLES

**HYMN:** VU # 108 "Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights."  
[Verse 1 only]

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us gather in the presence of the Spirit.

**All: We gather prepared to be guided by the Spirit of the living God.**

Leader: Come. Let us seek God's wisdom and guidance as we travel the path of our faith.

**All: We come trusting that God will see our journey through.**

Leader: Come, drink plentifully, feed abundantly, the journey in the wilderness is long.



**All: We come with assurance and affirmation of God's presence on our journey.**

Leader: Come, let us now refocus our minds and hearts to worship our Lord and draw closer.

**All: We come knowing that Christ will show us the way. We will never be alone. Thanks be to God!**

#### **OPENING PRAYER:**

**\*\*OPENING HYMN:** MV # 3 "River."

**A NEW CREED: VU # 918** [in unison]

**We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

#### **CHILDREN'S TIME:**

**\*\*CHILDREN'S HYMN:** VU # 766 "As the Deer Pants for the Water."

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** [in unison]

**God of the covenant, God who will never destroy own creation, God of good intentions, as we journey in this Lenten wilderness strengthen us, and help us be vigilance of**

**the temptations that come with the struggles of the jungle. Nourish us with your Wisdom to endure temptation and help us to trust in you when tempted. Amen!**

In scripture God speaks to each of us. Listen for the voice of God.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** MARK 1: 9-15

The word of God to us, God's people.

**REFLECTION:** "REFOCUSING OUR ATTENTION "

**\*\*HYMN:** MV # 165 "There Is a Time."

**BLACK HISTORY:** 10 Things You Didn't Know About Black History in Canada [Video]

#### **INVITATION FOR OFFERING**

What can we do with the talents, knowledge, time, and resources we have been given? Let us prepare our gifts, our hearts, and resources to offer with thanksgiving.

**\*\*OFFERING HYMN:** MV # 188 "I Thank You, Thank You, Jesus."

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** [in unison]

**Loving God, we thank you for gifting us with talents, knowledge, time, and resources. Help us to offer them for the sake of those who need to be fed and sheltered remembering that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We pray this through Christ. Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE**