



# WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent  
March 23, 2025

## *The Gathering*

### **Acknowledging the Territory**

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked this land, weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land. We acknowledge that we are on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people. May we grow into living with respect on this land, moving into reconciliation through peace and friendship with all who live, work and worship on it.

**Gathering Hymn:**

*Like a Rock*

*MV 92*

### **The Life & Work of our Community of Faith**

#### **Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candle**

We light the Christ candle to symbolize the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive within us, this day and every day.

We light the Affirm candle to proclaim to the members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and their allies that they are truly welcomed and accepted in this place.

## *Responsive Welcome*

### **Welcome**

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

**Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.**

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, siblings, youth, couples and single people.

**Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.**

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace and justice. The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Hymn:** *Come In, Come In and Sit Down*

*VU 395*

**Call to Worship:**

Where the bright water flows, where the table is set, where the wine runs free, where the bread is shared:

**we find God in the midst of plenty.**

Where the thirsty are satisfied, where the hungry are fed, where the lost are invited, where the poor are welcome:

**we find God in the midst of plenty.**

Where the love is strong, where the faith is deep, where the prayer is heard, where the soul is nourished:

**we find God in the midst of plenty.**

Come, let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer:**

**Your presence, O God, is with us in the sanctuary. We lift up our hands and call on your name. We are your people, thirsty for the living water you alone can give. When we consider how you have helped us, giving us a spring that gushes up to eternal life, we cling to you, singing praises with joyful lips. Bless our worship together in this hour and always. Amen.**

*(Children come forward while the song is played)*

**Hymn:** *Circle Song*

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand.

Come and join the circle, come and be my friend.

Gather round and see, what the world can be.

Come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me.

**Children's Message:**

**Ellen**

**Hymn:** *I Can Feel You Near Me God*

*MV 48*

*(Children leave for Sunday school)*

# *We Listen to God's Word*

**Scripture:** Luke 13:1-9

**Music Offering:** *Pensiero*  
by Frank Bridge  
Ann Frederking, viola  
Lianna Grace, piano

**Reflection:** Who Can Take the Time? How?

**Quiet Reflection and Prayer:**

**Hymn:** *Each Blade of Grass* MV 37

## **Offertory Invitation:**

Disciples of Jesus, children of God,  
we often spend our money on that which is not true bread,  
and labour toward things that will never satisfy.  
In our offering, we give things that are of God:  
bread for the hungry, good news for those who are oppressed,  
the ministries of the church that welcome strangers and family alike.  
We bring before God a portion of all that God has so freely given to us.

## **Offertory Prayer:**

**The fruit of the earth is ours, the sun upon our land, the water on our lips, the bread that we eat; all graciously given, all gratefully received. Here we ponder what we have, here we share what we have to give, here we pray a blessing on all these good things within the love of God Creator, Redeemer and Spirit. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

### **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  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn:** *Walk With Me* **VU 649**

**Commissioning:**

God I will bless you as long as I live.

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

**In the sanctuary we have praised you,  
on holy ground we have walked with you,  
we have been fed and nurtured and go now with thankful  
hearts.**

**Blessing:**

The blessing of God –

Creator, Redeemer and Spirit -

be yours now and always.

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude:** *Till We Meet Again* *by Heather Sorenson*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Words and Music reproduced with permission under One License A-610090*

Portions of this service of worship have been adapted from:

*Brenda Fawkes, Bethel Lee, Wade Lifton, Donna Scorer, Thom M. Shuman, Donald Schmidt, Nancy Talbot, Susan Burt, "Lent 3," In: Seasons of the Spirit: Seasons FUSION, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Kelowna: Wood Lake, 2012-2013, p.p. 57-68.*

*Kimberly Bracken Long, "Third Sunday in Lent," Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012, p.p. 113-118.*

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: **Rev. Grant Stuckless**  
Pastoral Care Provider: **Ron MacDonald**  
Interim Choir Director: **Ann McNamee**  
Collaborative Pianist: **Abigail Sánchez Rojas**  
Office Administrator: **Emma Dowd**  
Telephone: **(613) 733-0437**  
691 Smyth Road, Ottawa, ON  
Email: **office@emmanuelunited.ca**  
Website: **www.emmanuelunited.ca**  
**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:00 AM-4:30PM**

***Our Lay Reader today is Myrna Lamb.*** Thank you for your part in our worship service this morning.

***Thank you*** to the production team, ushers, lay reader, and coffee hosts for bringing us today's worship service and coffee and conversation time.

***Thank you*** to Ann Frederking and Lianne Grace for their musical offering today.

During this season of Lent we hope that the music played during the postlude will encourage some quiet reflection. For some, this time of contemplation may be lengthy, so we ask that you respect this as you quietly leave the sanctuary.

***Welcome to Emmanuel!*** If you are a newcomer or visitor this morning, we invite you to sign our **Guest Book** in the narthex with your name and contact information and join us in a time of fellowship in the CE Hall following worship.

Cathy Borza passed away on March 17. We remember her wonderful life and mourn along with her family and friends.

Join our **Let's Talk Tuesdays** Zoom Coffee and Conversation. "*Our Names.*" 1) *What do you think is in a name, and how is your name perfect for you ? or, Would you prefer another name?* 2) *Do you have any nicknames or special names that have been given to you over the years? What is special about your nicknames.* Isaiah 43:1, God says, "I have called you by name, you are mine." For the Zoom link, email [publicity@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:publicity@emmanuelunited.ca).

Take part in **Lenten Worship Services** on Zoom, Wednesday at 7pm.

**Basic Income Now:** a community anti-poverty initiative to advocate for a federal basic income plan for Canada . Signs are available for you to take home. If you want to order one please contact the office or Phyllis MacRae ([pmjmacrae@gmail.com](mailto:pmjmacrae@gmail.com)).

The **Thursday Morning Discussion Group** is now following Homebrewed Christianity's Lenten class *Paul the Pharisee Faith and Politics in a Divided World* with John Dominic Crossan. All are welcome to join us for our interesting and lively conversations. Please contact Evelyn Perkins ([perkeve@hotmail.com](mailto:perkeve@hotmail.com)) or any member of Heretics for further information or a Zoom invitation.

**A Song of Faith Lunch and Learn Program** ~ put on by the Southeast Ottawa Cluster. This week's meeting is at noon on Thursday, at Southminster. *This week's theme is "The Mission of God"*. More information is on our website under upcoming events.

### **Updates from the Zambia Pilgrimage (March 6-22):**

A groundbreaking ceremony for a girl's dormitory was held at the Chipembi Day school. The building of the dormitory has been supported through our Global Partnership and is needed so that young girls living far from the school have a place to stay.



Medical supplies were delivered to the Chipembi Rural Health Centre, and we toured the center and saw the addition that was built with our support that lets them do laboratory testing.

This is our meeting place on Makumba Farm where we have our debrief sessions, discuss our day, and pray together. Our spiritual leaders in addition to Rev. Grant and Rev. Lowes have been Mama Jenn, and Mama Rose, who both graduated from the Chipembi Girls school 60 years ago, and Mama Grace and Mwai Bula. They sing and pray with us. They listen in daily sessions as we share our thoughts on what we've seen, and we have been blessed with their understanding and guidance.





We visited the Chipembi Girls Secondary School alongside the new CEO of Schools. He had heard about the quality of the school and our partnership.

While in Chipembi for our final church service there were gifts given and received. A communion chalice and plate were presented to the United Church of Zambia, Chipembi Congregation on behalf of our United Church of Canada Ottawa partnership group by Rev. Lowes and Rev. Stuckless.



Rev. Grant Stuckless, Brenda Ashe, Andrew & Kati Collins, and Keith Jeacle are the members from Emmanuel on this trip.

## ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Sunday, March 23</b><br>Worship<br>Coffee and Conversation<br>Kiwanis Music Festival  | 10:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>2:30 pm – 9:00 pm  | Sanctuary<br>Lounge<br>Sanctuary  |
| <b>Monday, March 24</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>Take Time to be Wholey<br>Food Bank Collection<br>Christian Meditation                                      | 8:00 am – 9:00 pm<br>10:30 am – 11:30 am<br>2:00 pm – 3:00 pm<br>7:00 pm – 8:00 pm   | Sanctuary<br>C.E. Hall<br>Narthex<br>Zoom   |
| <b>Tuesday, March 25</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>Tai Chi<br>Let's Talk Tuesdays<br>Quilting<br>Coffee at 3 Sisters<br>Christie Lake Kids<br>Council Meeting | 8:00 am – 9:00 pm<br>10:00 am – 12:00 pm<br>10:00 am – 11:00 am<br>10:00 am – 3:00 pm<br>2:00 pm – 3:00 pm<br>4:00 pm – 8:00 pm<br>7:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Sanctuary<br>C.E. Hall<br>Zoom<br>Rooms 7, 9/10<br>3 Sisters<br>C.E. Hall<br>Zoom     |
| <b>Wednesday, March 26</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>Active Artists<br>Lenten Service<br>TELEOS<br>Voices Rock Medicine                                       | 8:00 am – 7:00 pm<br>11:00 am- 2:00 pm<br>7:00 pm – 7:30 pm<br>7:00 pm – 9:00 pm<br>8:00 pm -9:30 pm   | Sanctuary<br>Library<br>Zoom<br>Zoom<br>Sanctuary                                     |
| <b>Thursday, March 27</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>Tai Chi<br>Discussion Group<br>Song of Faith Study<br>Emmanubells<br>Al Anon<br>Choir                     | 8:00 am – 5:00 pm<br>9:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>10:00 am – 11:30 am<br>12:00 pm – 2:00 pm<br>6:00 pm – 7:30 pm<br>7:00 pm – 9:30 pm<br>7:30 pm – 9:00 pm  | Sanctuary<br>C.E. Hall<br>Zoom<br>Southminster<br>Room 9/10<br>C.E. Hall<br>Sanctuary |
| <b>Friday, March 28</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>Take Time to be Wholey  | 8:00 am – 9:00 pm<br>10:30 am – 11:30 am   | Sanctuary<br>C.E. Hall  |
| <b>Saturday, March 29</b><br>Kiwanis Music Festival<br>NMRA  | 8:00 am – 9:00 pm<br>9:00 am – 5:00 pm   | Sanctuary<br>C.E. Hall  |