

**St. John's United Church
March 1st, 2020
1st in Lent
Rev. Stephen Sparks**

HYMN SING

**GREETINGS, WELCOMING NEWCOMERS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER CONCERNS AND
CELEBRATIONS**

MINUTES FOR MISSION

LENTEN TENEBRAE LITURGY

One: The temptations facing Jesus in the wilderness are the same temptations facing many of us today: to be selfish and take care of our own needs first, to get attention by showing off, and to be the ruler of the world. Rulers get lots of attention, make all the decisions, and get whatever they want. Jesus refused to take such power, choosing instead to live according to God's way of love. Jesus insisted that there are better things in the world than worrying about how much we have. And Jesus always refused to be a show-off. Jesus chooses to serve God and God alone, and the tempter leaves.
All: Dear God, thank you for Jesus who shows us the way to follow you. Be with us as we begin the Season of Lent and help us to travel with Jesus each day. Amen.
(Extinguish Candle)

Regular Office hours
9:00 AM. – 12:00 PM Tues., Wed. and Thurs.
Office: 780 826 3003
E-mail: bonnyvilleunited@gmail.com
Website: www.bonnyvilleunitedchurch.ca

Thank you for your generosity.

For the week of February 23rd, 2020 we made \$ 1592.00

If you would like to have offering envelopes or join PAR, please call Stacy Mericer 780-826-2859

Ministry and Personnel Committee:

Bev Cameron 780 826 4142

Bob McRae 780 826 3256

Roger Antoniuk 780 812 4471

Susan Smith 780 826 2285

This Week: March 1st 2020

Greeter: Marlene Kirs & Val Hutchison

Scripture: Evelyn Campeau

Fellowship: Tammy White & Sandra Whalen

Next Week: March 8th 2020

Greeter: Roger & Suzanne Antoniuk

Scripture: Roger Antoniuk

Fellowship: Bim Bowers & Marilyn Loza

BENEDICTION

One: Holy and eternal God,
out of the storms of the world
we came into this quiet place to worship you
our abiding Refuge.

**Many: Thanks be unto you for silence which unfolds
strength and for tranquility leading us to things
deep and true.**

One: Meet with us here in the inner place of our spirits
and refresh us with your living presence.

**All: In the name of the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL # 424 May the Hope of God Go with Us
May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice
speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every
land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with
all, working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear
Christ's call.**

**May the God of healing free the earth from fear, freeing
us for peace, both treasured and pursued. May the God
of love keep our commitment clear to a world restored, to
human life renewed.**

**Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with
all, working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear
Christ's call.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Yahweh God took the man and settled him in the
garden of Eden to cultivate and take care of it. Then Yahweh
God gave the man this command:

**Many: "You are free to eat of all the trees in the garden.
But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you are
not to eat; for the day you eat of that, you are doomed to
die."**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

**We pray to the One God of the many: Grant us the
courage to intervene when we sense injustice. May we
speak of generosity rather than scarcity and use the
power of our presence only for those who cannot speak
for themselves. Remind us of the privilege it is to know
who we are and our place in the order of your creation.
Amen.**

HYMN # 115 Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

THE PASSING OF PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another in the love of God.

CHILDREN'S STORY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: We are often unaware of the ways we cause harm and perpetuate suffering. But you, O God, see us at our worst and you are filled with compassion for all of us – victims and perpetrators.

Many: Today we begin a journey of exploration. We will encounter our pain and the pain of others, confessing, repenting, and seeking forgiveness. Amen

(Please stand)

All: Almighty God, do not remain silent. Do not be unmoved or unresponsive to our needs: hear our prayer and answer it.

One: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER RESPONSE # 932 Lord Have Mercy X2
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

PARDON AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Creator and Saviour God: Giver and Renewer of Life:
We give You thanks for Your grace and mercy by which
the burden of sin and guilt has been lifted from us.
Blessed are you, God, most Holy, now and forever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the
desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

HYMN # 641 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 32 Pg. 759**GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen

HYMN # 337 Blessed Assurance

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER # 959**OFFERING**

OFFERING HYMN # 227 For the Fruit of All Creation
In the just reward of labour, God's will is done. In the
help we give our neighbour, God's will is done. In our
worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 2:15-17 Pg. 5

Romans 5:12-19 Pg. 192-193

Matthew 4:1-11 Pg. 6

SERMON

HYMN # 346 There in God's Garden

