

# Quispamsis United Church

March 3, 2024 - *Third Sunday in Lent*

***Liturgical Colour: Purple***

***Presider: Rev Ian Manson***

***Director of Music: Stephen Alexander***

***Reader: Heather Haché***

**Centering Reflection:**     *“Reformation, like education, is a journey, not a destination.”*

*-Mary Harris Jones*

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## GATHERING TOGETHER

**Opening Music & Time of Prayer and Candle Lighting**

*“Truth Be Told”*

Jammers

**Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Lighting of Affirm Candle & Acknowledgment of Territories**

**Celebrations**

**Introit:**

Gather Us In

MV 7

**Gather Us in, ground us in you.**

**Gather us in, ground us in you.**

**Gather us in, gather us in.**

**Ground us, ground us in you.**

**Call to Worship (Responsive):**

We gather as a community of friends who yearn to know God as revealed through the word and way of Jesus.

**We gather as people in need of mercy, grace and love.**

We gather to discern God’s will and assist one another in following God’s way.

**We gather to re-order our priorities, re-focus our lives, and to ask God’s help in finding new life.**

**Prayer of Approach (Unison)**

Gracious and loving God,  
throughout the ages you have sent prophets and teachers  
to help your people re-orient their lives  
and embrace the wisdom and guidance you have given.  
Help us hear and heed your direction today,  
so we might more fully embrace your counsel,  
embody your grace, and follow your way.

**Opening Hymn:**

It's a Song of Praise to the Maker  
It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
the thrush sings high in the tree.  
It's a song of praise to the Maker,  
The gray whale sings in the sea,

MV 30

*Refrain*

*And by the Spirit*

*you and I can join our voice to the holy cry  
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.*

It's a call of life to the Giver  
when waves and waterfalls roar.  
It's a call of life to the Giver  
when high tides break on the shore. R

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;  
the bumblebees hum along.  
It's a hymn of love to the Lover,  
the summer breeze joins the song. R

It's the chorus of all creation;  
it's sung by all living things.  
It's the chorus of all creation;  
a song the universe sings. R

**A Time of Contemplation**

**Time for All Ages**

**Sung Prayer of Illumination:**

Wonderful Words of Life  
Speak them over again to me  
Wonderful words of life  
Let me more of their beauty see  
Wonderful words of life

Songs of the Gospel

**Words of life and beauty  
Teach me faith and duty  
Beautiful words, wonderful words  
Wonderful words of life  
Beautiful words, wonderful words  
Wonderful words of life**

**Reading:** John 2: 13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gift of Music**

"Go Light Your World"

Jammers

**Message**

Turning the Tables

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn:**

Jesus Calls Us

VU 562

**Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild restless sea,  
day by day his clear voice sounding,  
saying, 'Christian, follow me.'**

**Long ago apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for Jesus' sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, 'Christian, love me more.'**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
'Christian, love me more than these.'**

**Jesus calls us: by your mercies,  
Saviour, may we hear your call,  
give our hearts to your obedience,  
serve and love you best of all.**

## **Life and Work of the Church**

### **Sharing of Gifts and Talents**

#### **Offertory Dedication Hymn:**

**We Give You But Your Own  
We give you but your own,  
What e'er the gift may be,  
All that we have is yours alone,  
We give it gratefully.**

VU 542

#### **Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

**O God, the source of all good things, we bring to you our gifts, our earthly things, the love of our hearts, and the service of our lives. All this we give through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.**

#### **Special Music: Jammers - "Thrive"**

#### **Introduction to Prayers of the People**

**May We But Wait**

MV 175

**May we but wait upon Love's word,  
Knowing our prayer is heard.**

## **Prayers of the People**

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil for the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever.

**SENDING FORTH**

God of Grace and God of Glory  
God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
now fulfil your church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;  
fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton selfish gladness,  
rich in goods and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

**Set our feet on lofty places,  
gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christlike graces,  
pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
that we fail not them nor thee.**

**Commissioning (Responsive):**

As we begin our journey through the season of Lent,  
let us remember the words of the prophet Micah:

**What does the Lord require of us?**

**To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

**Benediction**

**Choral Closing**

We Shall Go Out With Hope

VU 586 vs. 1

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**Closing Music:** March - James Hewitt arr. Jon Spong

## Truth Be Told – Matthew West

Lie number one, you're supposed to have it all together.  
And when they ask how you're doing, just smile and tell them, never better.  
Lie number two, everybody's life is perfect except yours.  
So keep your messes and your wounds and your secrets safe with you behind closed doors.

Truth be told, the truth is rarely told.

*I say, I'm fine, yeah, I'm fine, oh, I'm fine, hey, I'm fine, but I'm not, I'm broken  
And when it's out of control I say it's under control, but it's not and You know it.  
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it when being honest is the only way to fix it.  
There's no failure, no fall. There's no sin You don't already know,  
So let the truth be told.*

There's a sign on the doors says, come as you are but I doubt it.  
'Cause if we lived like that was true, every Sunday morning pew would be crowded.  
But didn't you say church should look more like a hospital?  
A safe place for the sick, the sinner and the scarred and the prodigals, like me.

Well, truth be told, the truth is rarely told.  
Oh, am I the only one who says...

*I say, I'm fine, yeah, I'm fine, oh, I'm fine, hey, I'm fine, but I'm not, I'm broken.  
And when it's out of control I say it's under control, but it's not and You know it.  
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it when being honest is the only way to fix it.  
There's no failure, no fall. There's no sin You don't already know,  
So let the truth be told.*

Can I really stand here unashamed knowing that Your love for me won't change?  
Oh God, if that's really true then let the truth be told.

*I say, I'm fine, yeah, I'm fine, oh, I'm fine, hey, I'm fine, but I'm not, I'm broken.  
And when it's out of control I say it's under control, but it's not and You know it.  
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it when being honest is the only way to fix it.  
There's no failure, no fall. There's no sin You don't already know,  
Yeah, I know.  
There's no failure, no fall, there's no sin You don't already know,  
So let the truth be told.*

## Go Light Your World – Chris Rice

There is a candle in every soul.  
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold.  
There is a Spirit who brings a fire,  
ignites a candle and makes His home

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle, and go light your world*

Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to  
Light his own candle some other way.  
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to,  
Still holds a candle without a flame.

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle, and go light your world*

'Cause we are a family whose hearts are blazing.  
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky.  
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus,  
Make us a beacon in darkest times.

*Carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the hopeless, deceived and poor  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle and go light your world...  
Run to the darkness,  
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn.  
Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle, and go light your world.  
Take your candle, and go light your world.  
Take your candle and go light your world.*



## Thrive - Casting Crowns

Here in this worn and weary land where many a dream has died.  
Like a tree planted by the water we never will run dry.

*So living water flowing through, God we thirst for more of You.  
Fill our hearts and flood our souls with one desire.*

*Just to know You and to make You known, we lift Your name on High.  
Shine like the sun make darkness run and hide.  
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives.  
It's time for us to more than just survive.  
We were made to thrive.*

Into Your word we're digging deep to know our Father's heart.  
Into the world we're reaching out to show them who You are.

*So living water flowing through, God we thirst for more of You.  
Fill our hearts and flood our souls with one desire.*

*Just to know You and to make You known, we lift Your name on High.  
Shine like the sun make darkness run and hide.  
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives.  
It's time for us to more than just survive.  
We were made to thrive.*

Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable, anything is possible.  
Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable, anything is possible.  
**Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable, anything is possible.**  
Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable, anything is possible ...

*Just to know You and to make You known, we lift Your name on High.  
Shine like the sun make darkness run and hide.  
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives.  
It's time for us to more than just survive.  
We were made to thrive.*

Woh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oooh Woh-oh-oh-oh-oooh Woh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh -oooh.  
Woh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oooh Woh-oh-oh-oh-oooh Woh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oooh.

We were made to thrive.