

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



FEBRUARY 21, 2021

REV. IAN MACKAY

SERMON SERIES: "ALIVE"

In the Presence of Wild Beasts

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Services in our Sanctuary are live streamed with a recording subsequently posted on Sunday afternoons on our YouTube channel.

Pre-recorded Services are posted at 6 a.m. on Sunday mornings. We invite you to listen online at a time that you choose to set aside for worship and meditation. <https://chalmersunitedchurch.org/weekly-worship/>

Bold Text *indicates the parts that everyone reads together.*

Song Books are: VU *Voices United* and MV *More Voices*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Magnificat noni toni

Bux WV 305 - Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 146

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

I will praise the Lord all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.

He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets prisoners free,

The Lord reigns forever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

As we begin this season of Lent, O God, may we be conscious of the daily busyness and distractions that take us away from your love and your will for us. May we not forget your promise to be here with us always. Help us to seek out your word and discern your intentions for your people everywhere.

Amen.

HYMN VU 255 *The Living God Be Praised*

1 The living God be praised,
who reigns enthroned above,
ancient of everlasting days, and God of love.
Jehovah, great I Am! By earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.

2 Your spirit still flows free,
high surging where it will;
in prophet's words you spoke of old
and you speak still.
Established is your law,
and changeless it shall stand,
inscribed upon the human heart,
on sea, or land.

3 You have eternal life
implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay,
while ages roll.
We praise you, living God!
We praise your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought,
and still the same.

Words: Daniel ben Juda 1404 trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann 1885
Music: Hebrew melody, adapt. Thomas Olivers and Meyer Lyon 1770
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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD.

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, Sacred Mystery,
greater than words can express;
whose love for us and all creation
exceeds our capacity to imagine,
open our hearts and minds. Amen.

Psalm 25: 1 – 10

Mark 1: 9 - 15

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 115 *Jesus, Tempted in the Desert*

1 Jesus, tempted in the desert,
lonely, hungry, filled with dread:
"Use your power," the tempter tells him;
"turn these barren rocks to bread!"
"Not alone by bread, he answers,
can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us
is our deepest hunger stilled!"

2 Jesus, tempted at the temple,
high above its ancient wall:
"Throw yourself from lofty turret;
angels wait to break your fall!"
Jesus shuns such empty marvels,
feats that fickle crowds request:
"God, whose grace protects, preserves us,
we must never vainly test."

3 Jesus, tempted on the mountain
by the lure of vast domain:
"Fall before me! Be my servant!
Glory, fame, you're sure to gain:
Jesus sees the dazzling vision,
turns his eyes another way:
"God alone deserves our homage!
God alone will I obey!"

4 When we face temptation's power,
lonely, struggling, filled with dread,
Christ, who knew the tempter's hour,
come and be our living bread.
By your grace, protect, preserve us
lest we fall, your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices,
be the Word we hear, obey.

Words: Herman Stuempfle, 1990 © G.I.A. Pub. Inc.
Music: The Sacred Harp, 1844, harm. Ronald A. Nelson 1978 © 1978 Lutheran
Book of Worship, Augsburg Fortress
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SERMON SERIES

Alive!

Rev. Ian MacKay

1. *In the Presence of Wild Beasts*

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

On Mannheim: *Lead Us Heavenly Father, Lead Us* - Andrew Fletcher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Lobe den Herren: Praise to the Lord, The Almighty - Alan Viner

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Guest Minister

The Rev. Ian Mackay Minister has been an ordained Minister of the United Church for 50 years having served pastorates in northern Manitoba (Flin Flon), south-western Ontario (London and Chatham), eastern Ontario (Edith Rankin Memorial, 1983-1993) and Montreal (St. Lambert, 1994-2010). In their retirement years, he and his wife Jane live near Verona where they regularly attend and offer services to Trinity United Church. They have 3 sons and 3 grandchildren. Two of the families live on the west coast, in the Seattle area and in New Westminster, and their youngest son lives in Halifax. This, alone can keep them active, travelling to both sides of the country! They also enjoy cycling, but only for much shorter distances and close to home!

Interim Music Director Hymn Choir

Aurora Dokken
Margot Craft, Janice Moncrieff, Joan Egnatoff, Barb Fletcher, Anja Troje, Juliette Milsome

Sound & Media Techs Technical Chair

Al Fletcher, Bill Egnatoff, Robert Bruce
Brigitta Holzschuh, Catie Doane
Nick Steinberg

Friends of Chalmers,

In my last note to you, I shared the names of those individuals who comprise the Reference Team (Bill Egnatoff, Mary Davis Little, Heather Faris, Nick Steinberg, Anja Troje, and myself).

As a follow up to that, I am happy to report that we held our initial meeting this past Thursday (February 18th) with FaithCARE facilitators' Bill Bickle and Bruce Schenk.

Our enthusiasm for the work before us was evident in the depth and expanse of the attentive listening and respectful conversation we had. Our commitment to the work before us was demonstrated by our willingness to meet again in just one week's time, and our ready agreement to make communications with you a priority.

While we still must decide upon the mechanics of that effort, be assured that you will hear from us as soon as there's news or information to pass along.

Until then, thank you for the kind words of encouragement and supportive prayers you have offered. We are truly heartened by the goodwill expressed!

For the Reference Team,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. David King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "G" and "K".

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday Feb. 28

- **Our Service will be held in our Sanctuary** with Rev. Ian Mackay leading us in Worship. It will also be live-streamed and a recording will be posted on our YouTube channel later that day.
- **An announcement about our Lenten and Easter Services** along with an invitation to participate was circulated to members in a "stand alone" email last Wed. It has been added as an attachment at the bottom of this week's E-blast, beside the Bulletin attachment, in case you missed seeing it.

Sunday March 7

- **11:30 am: Congregational Meeting:** There will be a Congregational Meeting by Zoom and teleconference following the 'House Church' service to approve the 2021 Operating Budget.

Tuesday March 9

- **4pm: CCE will meet** by Zoom.

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- **The United Church of Canada's General Council committed to becoming an anti-racist denomination,** in October 2020 and appointed Adele Halliday as its first Anti-racism and Equity Officer for the United Church. Adele presented the sermon titled "Persistent Advocates" to Sydenham Street United Church on February 7, 2021. If you are interested in hearing Adele's sermon, the service can be found on the Sydenham Street YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet>

SPECIAL LENTEN AND EASTER SERVICES

As has been the custom in previous years, a number of Churches, the "Ecumenical Worship Partnership", are planning special Lenten and Easter Worship Services.

The Ash Wednesday Service was posted on the Chalmers website under "Weekly Worship" and on the Ecumenical Worship Partnership YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWRIJZoKQxFCSkoV_GI_xQQ

The other Services which are being planned are:

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 1

Good Friday - Friday, April 2

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3

Easter 2 Lessons and Carols - Sunday, April 11

All these Services will be pre-recorded and posted on the Ecumenical Worship Partnership YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWRIJZoKQxFCSkoV_GI_xQQ

Feb. 24 - March 24

- **Coming up: An Intra-Church 2021 Kingston Ecumenical Bible Study Series** with Rev. Dr. Bill Morrow on *Difficult Texts of the Old Testament and the Gospel*. Time: Wednesdays in Lent from 7 - 9pm starting Feb. 24

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82370698764?pwd=ZIB6NWdqcktja1lNMGxZMkRTdUl6Zz09> Meeting ID: 823 7069 8764 Passcode: 938530

Feb 24 *Divine Violence in the Flood* (Genesis 6)
St. Andrew's, Presbyterian

March 3 *The Expulsion of Hagar* (Genesis 21)
St. Paul's, Anglican (Sydenham)

March 10 *The Sacrifice of Isaac* (Genesis 22)
St. Mark's, Lutheran

March 17 *Does God Reward Tricksters?* (Genesis 28)
Sydenham Street United

March 24 Discussion: *The Morality of God in the Book of Genesis*
St. Mark's, Anglican

This Lenten series focuses on some of the hardest texts to understand in the book of Genesis. Each week, it meets from 7-9 pm. After a short vesper service in the tradition of the host congregation, the evening will focus on the text chosen for discussion. St. James will host information including handouts at stjameskingston.ca/lenten-series.

BENEVOLENT FUND PROGRAM

Thank YOU for all the recent donations to the Blessing Box! This will help us, help others, for the next little while.

Cans of tuna and baggies of laundry detergent or pods would still be welcomed. As well, if you are culling during February, people can use any surplus hats, mitts or socks. If you can donate, please call Jan at 613- 547-0480 to arrange drop off.

Another thought is - if you have any extra cloth masks you can donate or the ability and some free time to make some, they would be gratefully accepted. We can easily share masks with those folks who may need one, by placing one in their envelope when they receive their grocery gift cards.



REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

- **Keys had been busy welcoming new GAR (Government-assisted Refugee) families** since December 2020. They have already received about 50 clients, with more coming in the coming weeks! With the lockdown and Thrift shops closed they will really appreciate our help. For small items PLEASE box and mark contents. Call to arrange drop off, (out near the airport) and I will open the garage. Zuby Saloojee 613 389 9731 or <mailto:mzsaloojee@hotmail.com>.

Donation list to help newcomer families settle in their houses.

Kitchen Items:

Dishes – plates, bowls, mugs, etc. / Cutlery & Utensils / Pots & Pans
Mixing Bowls / Electric mixer or Food processor / Drinking glasses
Cups for children / Kitchen towels and dishcloths

Washrooms Items:

Towels / Shower curtain

Household and Bedroom Items:

Bedding – new or gently used / Mattress protectors / Blankets
Pillows / Duvets/ blankets / Curtain rods / Curtains / Broom, mops,
duster / Waste basket / Vacuum cleaner / Floor lamps / Light bulb
Cleaning supplies

Furniture:

Single beds with frame, boxspring & mattress / Double and/or Queen
beds with frame, boxspring or mattress / Dressers / Sofas or loveseats
Dining tables with chairs (4, 6 or more) / Coffee tables and/or side
tables / Area rugs