



Strathmore United Church

March 9, 2025

1st Sunday of Lent

Rev. Maria Szabone Berces

Greetings & Welcome:

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

P: and also, with you..

Based on 2 Cor. 13:13

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Written by Alwin Maben; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2022, Page 30; Modified; Used with permission

🎵 Centering: Bless Now, O God, the Journey (Vs 1-2) *VU #633

Call to Worship:

L: We come to church today,

P: As faithful disciples, following Jesus.

L: We come to church today, carrying burdens, whether visible or invisible,

P: Seeking comfort, seeking grace, seeking community.

L: We come to church today, knowing that our hope lies in the merciful love of God, the salvation of Jesus Christ, and the mighty power of the Holy Spirit,

P: And so, we come, we connect, and we worship.

Written by Sandra Jenkinson; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2025, Page 30; Used with permission

Opening Prayer:

L: Lead us into the Season of Lent, O God;

P: Help us to reflect on the areas of our lives that call for change.

L: Go with us into the Season of Lent, O God'

P: Strengthen us, as we join our talents with the talents of our faith community.

L: Guide us as we begin the Season of Lent, O God.

P: Link us to the story of Jesus, that we may learn and find courage through his willingness to brave the toughest trials.

L: Challenge us as we encounter the significance of the Season of Lent, O God,

P: That we may confront and overcome the powers that oppress, weaken, and destroy. Amen.


Written by David Sparks; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2025, Page 31; Used with permission

Story Time for all ages:

 **Hymn:** Called by Earth and Sky *MV #135

Prayer of Confession & Word of Assurance:

Written by Susan Girard; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2022, Page 34; Used with permission

 **Hymn:** Nothing Can Trouble *VU #290

Prayer of Illumination:

Feasting on the Word; Year C V1 pg. 122; Used with permission

Reading of Scripture:

Luke 4:1–13;

Psalms 91 *VU #807 with refrain

Romans 10:8b–13

L: A Word of God that is still speaking,

P: Thanks be to God.

Message:


 **Hymn:** Jesus, Tempted in the Desert *VU #115

The Offering Invitation:

Written by Kate Gregory; Gathering, Lent-Easter 2016 page 33; Used with permission

M&S Story:

Giving and sharing as a first priority is what keeps us in good relations with our neighbours and our neighbourhood.


 **Dedication:** We Plough the Fields *VU #520 (Refrain only)

**All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
we thank you, God, O holy God,
for all your love.**

Prayer of Dedication:

Written by Bob Root; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2025, Page 36; Used with permission

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:

 **Hymn:** How Firm a Foundation (Vs 1-2;5) *VU #660

Commissioning:

L: Let us go forward into the uncertainties of life.

P: Let us be open to the guidance of the Spirit.


L: Let us go forward certain that God will calm our spirits as we confront our fears.

P: Let us go forward knowing that we are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Written by Beth W Johnston; Gathering, Lent-Easter; 2025, Page 37; Used with permission

Blessing:

Numbers 6:24-26.

 Response: Bless Now, O God, the Journey (vs 3) *VU #633

Passing the Peace of Christ

L: May the God of Peace go with you.

P: And also with you.

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship in the Library after the service.

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