



Sydenham Street United Church



Reverend Catherine Elsdon
First Sunday in Lent
18 February 2024
11:00 am

The lands on which we are meeting today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land, and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them, and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Introit "He Shall Call Upon Me" by Healey Willan

Call to Worship

When the road of faith is challenging,
we trust that God is with us.

When the storms of life are raging,
God leads us safely to shore.

When we find ourselves in between trust and doubt,
courage and fear, anger and empathy,
God meets us in the in-between spaces.

Let us come before God to discover again God's call for our lives.
We trust that God is with us.
Let us celebrate with story, service and song.

Hymn More Voices 144 "Like a Healing Stream"

Theme Conversation

Lent Candle Liturgy

God of creation and compassion,
forgive us when we ignore your call to follow the way of love.

Forgive us when we choose to leave you behind and forge our own way.

candle extinguished

Give us faith to see that where you call us, you also walk with us.

Assurance More Voices 62 "There Is Room for All" x2

Scripture

Jonah 1:1-16

One: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn Voices United 625 "I Feel the Winds of God"

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Dedicating our Gifts

What we offer as a community of faith this morning
is diverse and varied.

Bless, O God, our multiplicity of gifts—
of time, of talent, and of treasure—
that we may engage the world's complexity
with grace and with love. Amen.

Centering Music – *a time for quiet reflection*

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Jesus

A Paraphrase by Jim Cotter

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

Anthem “The Call” by Kevin Riehle

Unfinished: Out of the Depths – Sermon Series on the Book of Jonah
“God Calls and Persists”

Hymn Voices United 108 “Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights”

Blessing & Passing the Peace



Sydenham Street United Church as an Affirming Congregation seeks to be a vital faith community within The United Church of Canada engaged in spirituality, justice and creativity, informed by Jesus Christ and the Bible, and discerning the call of the Trinity as we celebrate diversity, inclusivity and abundant life.

In need of prayer or support? Contact our Circles of Companionship or Rev. Catherine at 613-546-9616 ext 203 or minister@sydenhamstreet.ca

Thank You for Talents Shared Today:

Reverend Catherine Elsdon, Minister
Howard Lopez, Music Director
Sydenham Street Choir
Rosalind Malcolm, Reader

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am-2:30 pm

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Web: <https://sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/>

Online Sunday Services: www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet

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**There are many ways to financially contribute to the ministries at
Sydenham Street United Church**

- Electronic Transfer (eTransfer) givings@sydenhamstreet.ca
- Donate by Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)
- Donate through [CanadaHelps](#)
- Place donation in offering plates at the sanctuary doors

For further information:

<https://sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/donate/>