

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

February 14, 2024, 07:00 pm, Lent in 2024

Ash Wednesday Service

Land Acknowledgement

There were people here long before we came to live on this land as settlers and descendants of settlers. We acknowledge these many Nations of Indigenous people who first lived and currently live here. We give thanks to this land, the territory(s) of these Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We do this to acknowledge our responsibility to enhance and promote peace among all who now share this land, as well as good stewardship of it and its resources.

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)

*OPENING HYMN: MV# 12 "Come Touch Our Heart"

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(The Christ candle is lit.)

We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines equally for each of us.

We light this candle to remind us of the love of Christ.

The light from this one candle shines equally for the world.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

And with your spirit.

Praised be the God of grace, mercy, and peace. Blessed be God for ever. **Blessed be God for ever.**

GATHERING PRAYER

Abba, God, as we gather on this Ash Wednesday, we are preparing for the Lenten journey with Jesus. Help us to own up to our less-than-best behaviour, especially when we know we have broken your trust, hurt others, or injured our own lives. Strengthen us with sincere resolve to follow the healing path of Jesus. Drench us in forgiveness and courage as we journey through this desert season in prayer and thoughtful awareness. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 3:17-21

This is the Word of God for the people of God Thanks be to God!

SERMON: "Ash with Oil!!"

* HYMN: VU # 266 "Amazing Grace"

THE BLESSING OF THE ASHES

Jesus come and save us,

We are but dust, We are like ashes, but you can touch our unclean souls.

Jesus come and forgive us,

Our hearts are heavy, Our burdens are great, Cleanse us with the water of life.

Jesus come and heal us,

Restore our sight, Teach us truth, Speak to us words that bring us wholeness.

Jesus touch us with your heart of love,

Restore our sight that we may see, teach us truth that we may lead Godly lives.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(All are invited to come forward to receive ashes on your forehead or back of your hand - to remember that you are God's beloved dust)

PRAYER AFTER THE IMPOSITION

Let us, individually and collectively, enter into our sacred relationship with God that we may commune, that we may confess, that we may heal, that we may grow. *(a time of silent prayer)*

Let us now bring our thoughts and petitions to God with love and compassion. Our response is: **(R) God of love, hear our prayer.**

1, For you and I as the people of God, that in our frailty as human being, we may find mercy and love for ourselves and for the frailty in others, we pray to the Lord. **(R)**

2, For our families, that Lent may be a time of prayerful consideration of the blessings in our lives, but also the reliance we can have on things especially when they keep us from people and relationships, we pray to the Lord. **(R)**

3, For the children in our church—that in their youth they too, may consider the brevity of this life and the importance of using all their gives in service to others, we pray to the Lord. **(R)**

4, We pray for the governments of this world, that leaders do all they can to bring peace and justice and the basic necessities of life to their people. NO MORE WAR. We pray to the Lord. **(R) Amen.**

* CLOSING HYMN VU# 672 "Take Time to Be Holy"

***COMMISSIONING AND VESPER**

May God bless us, for we have live in the grace. May the Son come to help us, for he has received us as brothers and sisters. May the Spirit be with us, for the Holy Spirit has made us in peace. **Amen.**

*Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see;
God will be there, watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen*

*** ORGAN POSTLUDE**

Thank you to Sue Foss for being the greeter, to Valerie Zuk for being the Lay Reader, to Yujene Oh for playing the piano and to Bill Utting for livestreaming the service tonight.

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Come Touch Our Hearts

(Come Touch and Bless)

Unison

♩ = 60

A

D

G

A

1 Come touch our hearts that we may know com - pas - sion,
 2 Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
 ♦ 3 Come touch our minds and teach us how to rea - son,
 4 Come touch us in the mo - ments we are fra - gile,
 5 Come touch us now, this peo - ple who are ga - thered,

A⁷

Bm

Em⁷Asus⁴

from fail - ing em - bers build a blaz - ing fire;
 your qui - et pre - sence all our fears dis - pel;
 ♦ set free our thoughts to won - der and to dream;
 and in our weak - ness your great strength re - veal;
 to break the bread and share the cup of peace;

A

A/G

D/F[#]

G

D/F[#]

love strong e - nough to o - ver - turn in - jus - tice, to
 cre - ate a space for spir - it to grow in us, let
 ♦ help us to o - pen doors of un - der - stand - ing, to
 that we may rise to fol - low and to serve,
 that we may love you with our heart, our soul, our

F[#]mF[#]/A[#]

Bm

Bm/A

G

A⁷

D

Dsus⁴

D

seek a world more gra - cious, come touch and bless our hearts.
 life and beau - ty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.
 ♦ wel - come truth and wis - dom, come touch and bless our minds.
 stea - dy now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.
 mind, our strength, our all, come touch us with your grace.

266 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

F C7 Dm Bb F

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares,
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me,
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

C7 F C7 F C7 F

that saved *a wretch like me; I once was lost,
 and grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did
 I have al - read - y come; 'tis grace that brought
 this word my hope se - cures; God will my shield
 bright shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days

Bb F Dm F C7 F

but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 that grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved.
 me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 and por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

* or "and strengthened"

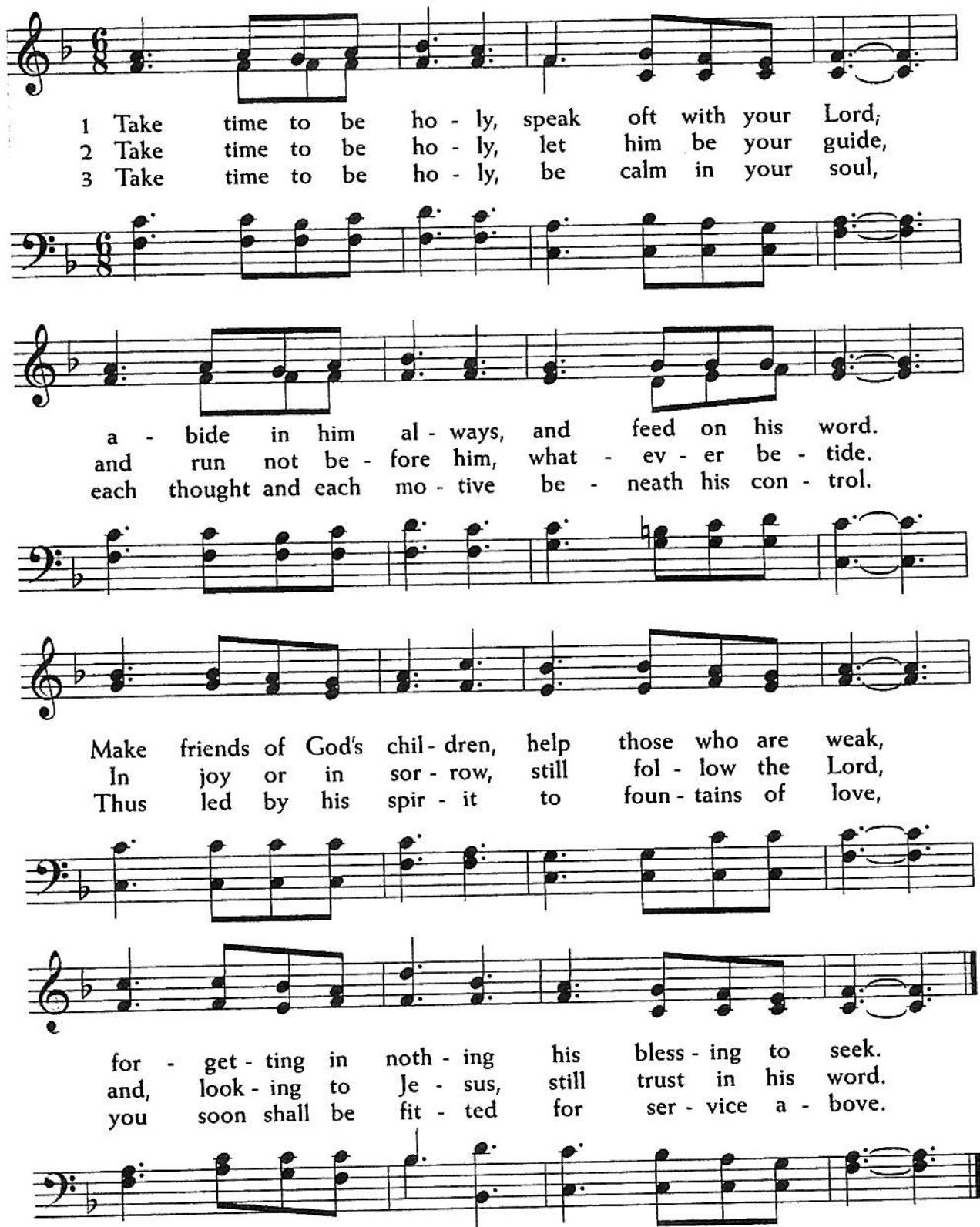
Words: John Henry Newton 1779, alt., v. 5 anon., from A Collection

AMAZING GRACE (NEW BRITAIN)

8 6 8 6

Take Time to Be Holy

672



1 Take time to be ho - ly, speak oft with your Lord;
 2 Take time to be ho - ly, let him be your guide,
 3 Take time to be ho - ly, be calm in your soul,

a - bide in him al - ways, and feed on his word.
 and run not be - fore him, what - ev - er be - tide.
 each thought and each mo - tive be - neath his con - trol.

Make friends of God's chil - dren, help those who are weak,
 In joy or in sor - row, still fol - low the Lord,
 Thus led by his spir - it to foun - tains of love,

for - get - ting in noth - ing his bless - ing to seek.
 and, look - ing to Je - sus, still trust in his word.
 you soon shall be fit - ted for ser - vice a - bove.