### St. Davids-Queenston United Church

February 18, 2024, 10:30am, First Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday

### 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)

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: MV# 10

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(The Christ candle is lit.)

In times of struggle, Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of wonder, Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of anxious anticipation, Jesus Christ is the Light

of the World.

In this time and place, here and now, and in all the days of our lives,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

As we continue to journey toward the cross, let the light of this Christ candle remind us of who we are and whose we are: struggling, wondering, and anxiously anticipating people of the Way.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Lent is an opportunity for a spiritual spring cleaning,

a chance to take and air out our experiences and thoughts,

time to consider them, organize them, and make decisions.

What have we learned? What is to be promoted or avoided?

As we prepare to move into a time of new joys and new uncertainties,

what can we use to rest firm in our faith?

Let us worship together, in part because it strengthens our resolve

to trust in God and live our lives in Christ.

### **GATHERING PRAYER**

God of Grace and Healing, you are witness to every part our being. You know the places where we shine brightly with confidence, just as you know the hidden, aching parts of ourselves that we try not to reveal. You know us and love us, just as we are. We seek the power of your grace to heal all that is broken within us. Mend our broken hearts, heal the wounds of our spirits, and send us out to continue on this Lenten path together, ready to share your way of peace and healing wherever we go. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung) VU#960

### ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

Welcoming all to: Gather in God's Grace,

Grow in Christian Faith and Go in Community Service.

LEARN TOGETHER: VU# 577 "I've Got Peace like a River"

(Youth and Children's time)

I've got \*peace like a river, I've got \*peace like a river,

I've got \*peace like a river in-a my soul.

(Sing Once, \*2, Love, \*3, Joy)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 9:8–17

Psalm 25:4-10

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

SACRED MUSIC: "Jacob's Ladder" (Choir)

SERMON: "Lent in 2024!!"

\* HYMN: VU# 356 "Seek ye First the Kin'dom"

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (please see green insert)

\*OFFERTORY HYMN: "Hearts Full and Ready"

We bring to you Lord, our hearts full and ready Because of Your grace and provision All of creation, it cries for redemption The heartbeat of Your love's inclusion

The hands of one join hands with the many Our time, our talent, our treasure

We pray to you Lord, receive these our gifts

And use them in Your love's good measure.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, may what we have offered—of ourselves, of our resources, of our time—become a rainbow blessing of light for an aching world among those of us gathered here, for our local community, and for our world, blessed by the power of your abundant grace. Amen.

\* CLOSING HYMN VU# 108 "Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights"

### \*COMMISSIONING AND VESPER

Go in peace. And on your journey, may you have the boldness to come to Jesus just as you are, ready to be transformed into followers led by the Holy Spirit who journey through this world in peace, in faith, and in love. May the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and evermore. **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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Feb 14(Wed) ~ Mar 30(Sat), 2024, Lent in 2024: Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar.

Mar 24(Sun), 2024: Palm Sunday

Mar 25(Mon)-March 30(Sat): Holy Week

-Mar 28(Thur) at 7pm: Maundy Thursday (Hand Washing Service)

-Mar 29(Fri) at 10:30am: Good Friday Service

Mar 31 at 10:30am: Easter Sunday, Communion Sunday

Please join us for coffee & fellowship in the CE hall following the Worship service this morning.

Thank you to Elma Gardner for being the greeter, to Marilyn Fox-Calhoun for being the Lay Reader, to the choir for their musical contribution and to Bill Utting for livestreaming the Worship service this morning.

This Wednesday Feb 21st at 7:00 pm: "United in Truth", Bible Study Group.

The Church Board will meet this Tuesday, February 20th at 7pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, March 3rd. A Potluck luncheon in the CE hall will follow the meeting.

The Annual Reports will be available next Sunday, February 25th in the narthex and on the table outside the kitchen. Please take a copy of the report home, read through it and bring it back with you for the meeting on March 3rd. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the report.

Continuing prayers have been requested for Owen Calhoun, Bob Kerr, Isobel Griffiths, Eleanor MacDonald, Roy & Jennie Harwood, Michael Antoniuk, Sandi Sinclair, Neil Foss, Ginny Slingerland, Elizabeth Whan, Margaret Ballantyne and Anthony Logan Siconolfi.

Continuing prayers have also been requested for Rebecca Gandey & Danny Hatfield, Johanna O'Brien & husband Steve Corfe, Susan & Jim O'Brien, parents of Johanna O'Brien, Jeffrey Nelson and his parents Ruth & Peter Nelson, Dawn & Ron Walsh and families, Sandra & John Dunn, Parents of Patti Pozzobon, Laurie Reed, wife Judith and their family, Gayle Vanesch, her Husband Peter and their Families, Wendy & Peter Dean, Jennifer & Stewart Fulton, Marion & John Smith, Barbara Redner, Kelly & Rob Dolihan and Lawrence Dempsey.

### St. Davids-Queenston United Church

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### Sacrament of Communion

- \* If you are at home, please have your own baptism elements.
- \* The bread should be "taken" as received and the wine together as a congregation (the wine is in the red side of the tray, the grape juice is in the other side.)
- \* In response to the words of the servers, you are invited to respond, 'Amen' or 'Thanks be to God'.

### HYMN: # MV 202 "Bread for the Journey" (three times)

Bread for the journey, food for the way. Cup of God's blessing, tomorrow today.

God is with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God, our God.

(Refrain only)

It is right to give God thanks and praise

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

God, most holy, we do give you thanks as we gather at Christ's table, as we remember your love, holy and whole, a love that has held us from the beginning of the beginning, and a love that will hold us for as long at time exists.

# Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(Y)We need your Wisdom, God. We need your guidance. We need your invitation – your calling – your whispers and your shouts – through the voices of prophets and priests, grandmothers and grandfathers, children and infants, all who listen and speak your love.

# Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Wholly God and wholly human, a tiny baby, a youth, an adult, a teacher, a healer, a challenger, a saviour, he laughed with those who laughed and cried with those who cried, but, most of all, he loved us with a love that never, ever, ends, a love that surpasses even death, a love that brings new life — not only to us... but to all creation! Alleluia!

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

On the night before he was taken to his death on a cross, Jesus gathered with his disciples. No... he gathered with his friends. He shared with them a meal of remembrance and freedom. After an act of utmost humility and hospitality – washing their feet – he blessed the bread and broke it, saying,

"Take this and eat it. This is my body, given for you. Each time you eat bread, remember me!"

As the meal drew to a close, he blessed a cup of wine and passed it to them, saying,

"Take this and drink it. This is my covenant, that sins are forgiven. Each time you drink, remember me!"

So we eat, we drink, and we remember! Holy God, send your Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts, that they — and we — might truly be Christ's body alive in the world! Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory is yours. God most holy, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The gifts of God, for all Creation!

Thanks be to God!

Jesus Christ, the bread of life. Amen.

Jesus Christ, the cup of blessing. Amen.

(The bread and juice are shared.)

Prayer after communion:

With this taste of the bread of Life, with this taste of the cup of Love, send us into the world, God – so that we might whisper your coming, so that we might sing your Advent, so that we might live your birth, now and forever! Amen!

### 10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom



A hymn which seeks to express a trinitarian theology based on scriptural Wisdom images.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1993 Music: Donna Kasbohm, 1995 MADELEINE 8 7 8 7 8 7 Alternate tune: PICARDY



### I've Got Peace like a River



### 356

### Seek Ye First the Kingdom



Words: Karen Lafferty 1972

Music: Karen Lafferty 1972, desc. Karen Lafferty 1972

### \*OFFERTORY HYMN: "Hearts Full and Ready"

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### Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights 108

