

Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street



St. John's, NL



A1C

3L7



March 5th, 2023
2nd Sunday in Lent

Guest Presider: Rev. Karen Bursey

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

Minister of Music: Patricia Young

Director of Music: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

Technical Operations: John Williams, Jackabon Media

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info@cochranestreetuc.com www.cochranestreetuc.com

Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

Whether you are here for the first time or this is your church home – welcome to our community of faith.

USHERING TEAM FOR MARCH

Keith Bowden, Harold Grandy, Brian Johnston,
Sandy Stavlo, and Sandra Garland

OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Thursdays 11:30 am – 4:00 pm
Fridays 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Email: info@cochranestreetuc.com

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: www.cochranestreetuc.com

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings
709-754-2532 or info@cochranecentre.ca

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND FUNERALS

Rev. Oliver Dingwell will cover all pastoral emergencies and funerals.
He can be reached at (709) 640-4632

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter!
www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc and @CochraneStreet

THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN IS DEDICATED:

in celebration of the arrival into this beautiful world of Ella Rose Jewczyk on February 27, 2023, daughter of Lauren Power and Matthew Jewczyk.

With much thankfulness, joy and abundant love from grandparents Robin & Gordon Power and Charlotte & Stephen Jewczyk.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

**bold is in unison

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

INTROIT VU #271: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (vs. 1 & 5)

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.

5 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

***LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

The light of Christ is with us

Here. Now. In this place.

In Christ, although we are many,

We are one.

Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

***REFLECTIVE MUSIC VU #147: What Wondrous Love Is This (vs. 2)**

2 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this,
 that caused the Lord of life
 to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
 to lay aside his crown for my soul.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

God invites us to journey in the way of faithfulness, to walk the Lenten road with Christ.

We journey with confidence, for Christ is with us.

Thanks be to God, for God's steadfast love.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

God of Sarah and Abraham, God of us all: you have called people throughout the ages to journey in faithfulness. Give to us a sense of anticipation through this Lenten season, that we may move with confidence and hope toward the new life of Easter. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Companion and Guide. Amen

***HYMN:**

To Abraham and Sarah

634 VU

LENTEN SYMBOLS

Lenten Symbols - Plant

Jesus said: "I am the real vine, and my father is the gardener. I am the vine and you are the branches; whoever remains in me, and I in him will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me."

(John 15:1,5)

We offer praise and thanksgiving that Jesus provides a model of how we may grow.

Like a plant, we too require solid roots, feeding and care.

Often our faith seems like a seed; small and undeveloped. Yet we are promised that we will be cared for and will experience growth.

Too often we find ourselves sowing seeds of doubt, bitterness, fear, mistrust and guilt rather than being healthy and strong, growing with love, kindness, humility, and faithfulness. We place on the cross a plant as a reminder that we have potential for growth if we accept the way of Christ.

(A candle is extinguished and the plant placed on the cross)

PRAYER

God of the wilderness, be with us as we wander through the desert of our lives. Keep us from running back to the safety of old assumptions, and walk with us as we learn to live the life abundant. Amen.

***HYMN: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (vs. 1) # 121 VU**

1 Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.

2nd Sunday: In our call to be a blessing,
may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing
Christ as Lord of all we do,
Christ as Lord of all we do.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We are all too human, Faithful God, and so think we have nothing to learn from others, and thus discount ancestors in the faith like Nicodemus or Sarah. We look for answers online, convinced that we can trust whatever we find. We close tight the shutters of our souls, so the Spirit can only rattle us, but not get in to transform our lives.

Yet you continue to keep watch of us, Promise Giver, whether it is when we swagger through the sunshine of our lives, or in those shadowed moments of uncertainty in the night. You will not stumble as you continue to come to us, to lead us into your kingdom. You will always be our help, whether or not we recognize it or accept it, even as you remained faithful to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Our hope, our help, our peace, our joy? All come from God, the One who loved us, and the world so much, that Jesus came to bring us salvation.

Keeper of our souls, be with us; Watcher of our days, lead us; Salvation of our lives, have mercy on us. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offering in the plate. You can send your offering by mail or drop them off in the mailbox. You can donate via eTransfer: csuctreasurer@gmail.com. You can sign up for PAR (Pre-Authourized Remittance) or use the donate button on our website.

***OFFERTORY HYMN VU #149: When I Survey (vs. 4)**

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 that were a present far too small:
 love so amazing, so divine,
 demands my soul, my life, my all.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Gracious God, bless and transform all that we offer: our faltering steps, our brokenness, our hope, our risking, our hearts, that your covenant may be written on our hearts and we may be a blessed and transformed covenant people. In Jesus' name. Amen.

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

In our struggle to hear your Word, O God, bless even our doubts, our wonderings, our wanderings, our soul-struggles, life's deep questions, and deeper mysteries. Teach us to love our questions as well as our answers. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 12:1-4a

Reader: Sandy Stavlo
 The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

***RESPONSIVE PSALM 121:VU #844**

Reader: Sandy Stavlo

EPISTLE READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Reader: Sandy Stavlo
 The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING: John 3:1-17

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ – **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN: Walk With Me # 649 VU**

SERMON:

ANTHEM: God So Loved the World, by Stainer

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN:

O World of God

258 VU

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Holy God, Dreamer of dreams, We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

May the blessing of God give us strength for the journey;
may the Spirit of wisdom give us vision for the road;
may the love of Christ make us caring companions;
as together we go forth in the Lenten time. Amen.

SUNG BENEDICTION VU #430: God Be in My Head

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

*POSTLUDE

Please take your bulletins with you when you leave the pew.

MEMORIALS

*A Memorial Gift Is Gratefully Received from
The Estate of Sonia Reynolds*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAR 05:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 07:	St. John's & Mt Pearl churches to join CSUC
MAR 12:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 09:	Easter Sunday & Communion
MAR 19:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey		CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
MAR 26:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 16:	CSUC - TBA
APR 02:	Palm Sunday	APR 23:	Rev. Oliver Dingwell
	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey		Cowan Heights to join CSUC
APR 07:	Good Friday Service		

ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you wish to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please have it into the office by Thursday at noon.

No SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE! A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping.

PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC: While Cochrane Street United Church is without a minister, Rev. Oliver Dingwell will be covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. He can be reached at (709) 640-4632 or by email at: odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca. If Rev. Oliver is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds pt2reynolds@gmail.com.

This Sunday, worship service will be held in the community hall:

As most of you may be aware, the furnace broke down last Sunday, so the sanctuary is cold at the moment. Until the furnace is running, we encourage using the Bannerman Entrance door. Bannerman parking lot and the path from Stewart Ave Entrance to the Bannerman parking lot have been well cleared.

Technicians have been in to fix the furnace but Service NL is required to inspect the furnace before repairs are completed. Once both are done, the heat then has to be slowly increased to protect the organ. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

LOST AND FOUND: Several gloves, hats, and glasses have been found in the sanctuary. If you think an item may be yours, please contact the church office at 722-3023 or drop by Sunday morning. After March 5 they will be given away.

ENVELOPES: Do you need envelopes? If so, please contact Harold Grandy at hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca.

RECYCLABLES: Drop off your recyclables at any Green Depot and use the Cochrane Street Code (our phone number) 7223023. Your empty containers will support the ministries of our congregation! Don't forget to drop off your eligible tretra or gable containers and glass containers (including beer & wine bottles) for a refund. Thank you in advance for your help. For more information, check out this website: <https://www.greencan.ca/?page=start>

SEEKING 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: The Church Council is seeking members of the congregation to sit on the 2023 Church Council. This is necessary to ensure compliance with the United Church governance requirement and to provide the continued leadership of our church, particularly in the coming year which is a pivotal year for Cochrane Street. The Church Council generally meets monthly in the evenings. There will be a number of vacancies on Council in the coming year as a number of members who have served are stepping down. If you are interested in being part of the Church Council, please email the Council Chair, Stephen B. Jewczyk (sjewczyk@gmail.com; telephone 763-3213) or Brian Johnston at bjohnston@nl.rogers.com.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING is scheduled for **April 23, 2023**, after the Worship Service. Deadline for all reports of church groups and committees to be included in the annual report is February 24, 2023. Please submit your reports including financial reports to Harold Grandy preferably in an electronic format via email hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca.

COFFEE TIME HOSTS: We are looking for people to volunteer as hosts for Coffee Time after church. Just tea and coffee is fine – no need to provide juice or snacks. We have a volunteer for February. If you are willing to help host, please contact the office (722-3023). Don't know what to do? No problem. We can help you out by pairing you with someone who has done it before or just giving you an orientation. Your help is very much appreciated! If you are unable to participate, monetary donations are welcomed.

VOLUNTEER REQUEST: Council has started the updating of the Historical Roll for CSUC. This project is a requirement for all pastoral charges. Linda Bowden, CSUC's archivist, is providing invaluable information and leadership for the project. Volunteers are reviewing the lists of persons on the Roll and contributing valuable additional information to Council. Anyone interested in assisting with the project should contact Brian Johnston who is the lead for Council with this project, through the church office at 722-3023 or info@cochranestreetuc.com.

BRIDGES TO HOPE ITEM OF THE MONTH: For each month of 2023, Bridges To Hope will be suggesting a much needed food item for members of our partner congregations to consider for donation. These items are staples and will go a long way to ensuring that hampers can be filled. **For the month of March, we are suggesting 1 Litre of Juice.** Of course all donations of any kind are very much appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Weekly **"Specials"** March 2 – 9, 2023 - Useful items for Bridges To Hope:

Walmart –	Primo Pasta or Pasta Sauce - \$0.97
Dominion –	Graves Apple Juice - \$1.25
Lawtons –	Clover Leaf Tuna – 4/\$6.00
	KD (Kraft Dinner) - \$0.97

BRIDGES TO HOPE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN:

As we are all aware, Bridges to Hope (B2H) is currently struggling with the demands that are being placed on it by individuals and families that depend on the centre for food aid assistance. Your continued and ongoing voluntary assistance and financial and food contributions to B2H, which is one of our Outreach Ministries, has been both appreciated and much needed.

The Lenten season is a time to practice the sharing of our gifts with the wider community. Since we haven't had a full-time minister for much of last year, we have funds normally allocated to worship that we can put to more immediate needs and ministries. This Lenten season, the Church Council wishes to share this gift to the wider community through B2H by undertaking a fundraising campaign that will end on Easter Sunday. Within that time period, the Church Council is prepared to match the funds raised by the congregation up to the amount of \$2,500.00. In other words, if the individual donations total \$2,500.00, Council is prepared to match that amount with another \$2,500.00 which will result in a total contribution of \$5,000.00 for B2H.

You can make your donations via electronic donation at csuctreasurer@gmail.com, place an envelope in the collection plate marked "Bridges To Hope" or mail your donation to Cochrane Street United Church, 81 Cochrane Street, St. John's, NL A1C 3L7. The need is great. Your generosity can respond to that need.

PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR TURKEY AND SYRIA: On Monday, February 6, a massive magnitude 7.8 earthquake hit southern Turkey and neighbouring Syria. We hold in our thoughts and prayers all those affected. The United Church of Canada has launched a [fundraising appeal](#) to support the people in recovering from their enormous loss. As a member of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, The United Church has joined the Humanitarian Coalition in asking Canadians to [give to help those impacted by the crisis](#). You can also help by [writing to your Member of Parliament](#) to ask the Canadian government to support lifting sanctions against Syria to facilitate full humanitarian access.

Online: via our [secure donation page\(opens in a new tab\)](#).

Phone: 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738
and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order to: The United Church of Canada
Philanthropy Unit - Emergency
Response
3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Please be sure to note "Emergency Response—Türkiye" on the face of your cheque.

REGIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING: The closing motion of the 4th Annual Meeting of the region on May 15, 2022, named the 5th Annual Meeting of the Regional Council to be held virtually, using zoom video conferencing on May 12-14, 2023. For more information, please visit: <https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2023>

Lenten Learning Lunches: Join us on Thursday's during March for our online (zoom) **Lenten Learning Lunches** (March 9, 16, and 23) from 12:30-1:30pm in Newfoundland and 12-1pm in most parts of Labrador. Our speakers will be members of FDEE Staff speaking on their areas of work as Lenten Practice. More details will follow as we get closer to Lent.

ReVITALize 2023: A special learning event for lay people and people serving in ministry, will be held on June 7-9, 2023, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. All are invited and welcome! For more information, visit: <https://www.revitalizeconference.ca/>

BRIDGES TO HOPE BENEFIT CONCERT: A Songwriters Circle Benefit Show in support of Bridges to Hope will take place on Thursday, **March 16, at 7 pm** at Gower Street United Church. The show will feature Alan Doyle, Rachel Cousins, Kelly McMichael and Nick Earle. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Bridges to Hope web site at www.bridgestohope.ca, or by calling 709-722-9225.

MASTERWORKS 4: THE ARMED MAN: A descent into war, moments of reflection, and the hope of peace in a new millennium – this is Karl Jenkins' incredible mass dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo crisis, *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. In addition to extracts from the Ordinary of the Mass, the text incorporates words from other religious and historical sources. Join the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Marc David together with the Philharmonic Choir of the NSO for this moving and important work. Soloists include Krista Howe-Croke, soprano; Abra Whitney, alto; Jeffrey Taylor, tenor; and Colin Mackey, baritone. Masterworks 4 takes place on Friday, **March 24, at the Arts & Culture Centre St. John's**, and is presented by Wedgwood Insurance. Tickets are available at the ACC Box Office (729-3900), online at www.artsandculturecentre.com, and at the door.



For God so loved the world
that He gave His only Son

John 3:16