

KING CITY UNITED CHURCH
A Vibrant, Caring, Christian Family
Proclaiming the Good News of God's Love
Through Jesus Christ!

February 26, 2023
First Sunday of Lent
(*** Please rise as you are able)
(Words in Bold said by all)

... WITH OPEN DOORS ...

Prelude: "Pastorale on Rockingham" N. Gilbert

Welcome, Life & Work with King City UC

Lighting of the Christ Candle

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isa. 9: 2)
This candlelight reminds us of the coming of Jesus Christ in our midst.

Thanks be to God!

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.

*****Hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" VU 262**

**1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper sure amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
with power and malice great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth he has no equal.**

**2 Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing:
dost ask who that may be?**

**Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.**

**3 And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
the truth to triumph through us:
the prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.**

**4 That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Christ, who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
God's kingdom is for ever.**

Opening Prayer

Response: "O God, Hear My Prayer"

VU 948

**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer: when I
call answer me.**

**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer: come and
listen to me.**

Words of Assurance (based on 1 Peter 3: 18-22)

Response: "I Am the Dream"

MV 106, vs 3

**You are the word and I the echo.
You are the leader and I am the led.
You are the joy and I the laughter.
You are the Rock on which I lay my head.**

*****Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed**

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Ministry of Music: "Lenten Prayer"

S. Regina

... WITH OPEN MINDS ...

For the Young at Heart

*****Hymn: "O Love, How Deep"**

VU 348, odd verses

**1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, in Jesus Christ, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.**

**2 Sunbeams scorching all the day,
chilly dewdrops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about your way;
stones your pillow, earth your bed.**

**3 Shall not we your trial share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
strong with you to suffer pain?**

**4 If temptations, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
you their vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.**

**5 Keep, oh keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by your side;
that with you we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Hymn: "*In Gratitude and Humble Trust*" 544 VU

**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*****Closing Hymn "*How Firm a Foundation*" VU 660**

- 1 How firm a foundation, you servants of God,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can be said than to you has been said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

- 2 'Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.**

- 3 'When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.**

- 4 'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply:
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.**

- 5 'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not - I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never - no, never - no, never forsake!'**

*****Commissioning / Benediction**

*****Choral Blessing:**

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"

VU 121

**From the dawning of creation,
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone,
make us turn to you alone.**

*****Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

Christ has been with us sharing the light of life. He says to us, "You are the light of the world. Let your light shine."

We go forth taking with us the light of Christ in our hearts, and we promise to let it shine in the world through our good works, to the glory of God. Amen.

Postlude: *"The King of Love"*

C. Gounod

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord!

Worship Schedule

March 5th - Second Sunday of Lent – Rev. Andrew Lee

March 12th - Third Sunday of Lent – Rev. Bruce Roffey

March 19th - Fourth Sunday of Lent – Rev. Andrew Lee

Annual General Meeting

King City United Church AGM will be held today after the service.

In-Person and virtual Pastoral Counselling/ mobile communion/ mobile baptism service

Rev. Lee offers pastoral counseling and visitation including mobile communion and baptism. Please contact Rev. Lee (leeky3@mcmaster.ca) to make an appointment.

Minute for Mission

Elders teach students
the words, phrases, songs, and stories of their ancestors.



Credit: Haida Gwaii Skidegate

Published On: January 20, 2023

Take a moment to think about your favourite story.

Now imagine that story being at risk of disappearing because the language it's written in is endangered. This is something that nine Elders from Haida Gwaii are passionately trying to change.

Once there were over 15,000 fluent speakers of Haida, but today, because of assimilation tactics like residential schools, almost all Haida people speak English at home. The nine Elders—with an average age of more than 80—represent about half of the fluent Haida speakers who remain.

With partner support, the work of these Elders in a research-based revitalization project keeps the Haida language alive and growing.

The Elders are teaching students the words, phrases, songs and stories of their ancestors. The response has been empowering, with language learners near and far dedicating themselves to study.

Lessons are given through the Longhouse of Skidegate village, but the program reaches much further, with more than 120 online lessons available. The opportunity to connect across the globe has allowed Haida language, stories, and culture to be shared broadly.

The program also gives young people from the Haida Nation the opportunity to connect with the Elders to nurture their cultural pride and understanding. "I appreciate the work the Elders are doing with our language and culture," said one young student. "They work very hard every day so that my generation can remember."

The Haida language is not the only Indigenous language that has been endangered. Your gifts to **Mission & Service** support programs and partnerships for Indigenous cultural revitalization around the world.