



Silver Falls United Church

Sunday, March 14th, 2010

Minister: Rev. Angela Cory, BA M.Div

Director of Music: Ann McAllister, B. Mus, B.Ed

Duty Team March: Jean Watters, Jackie Dube, John Redstone and Lorraine Redstone

Congregational Responses are in **Bold** print.

* **Please stand if able.**

Personal Prayer of Preparation

Your embrace, O God, is our life and our hope. Receive us when we drift off into recklessness and despair. Receive us when we drift off into self-righteousness and resentment. We thank you for grace that embraces us and all with love. Amen

Organ Prelude

Introit Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

VU 121, vs 1&4

Call to Worship (unison)

We gather in this place to worship you, living God, who was and who is and who will be

forever. We gather in this place in wonder and confusion, in hope and longing, doing the best we can to find our way. Be with us, God, touch and warm our hearts that we might be a blessing. Amen

Prayer of Approach (in unison)

Waiting God—welcoming presence in the doorway, listening for the footfall, the squeak of the floorboard—open your aching heart to us, those who look hopefully for a small light of hope to guide us home. Greet us with a loving embrace once more, we pray. Amen

Lenten Candle Liturgy—Lent IV

Meditation

One: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, we thank you that you are with us and that we may call upon you no matter where we are or what we are feeling. Keep us mindful of your presence and trusting in your promise—that you are working with us in the moment-by-moment unfolding of our lives.

Amen

Opening Hymn

Beaneath the Cross of Jesus

VU 135

Call To Confession

One: We need forgiveness, God, for we are not the people you would have us be—forgive us and set us free as we say our prayer:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Even as we approach your holy love in faith, O God, we know how often we turn away and refuse your generous welcome. Sometimes we doubt that we really are forgiven. We determine the limits of your mercy by measuring our own. We look at ourselves and fear that we are hard to love. We believe that we should go through more pain before we ask for your kindness, or feel that one more stumbling in our human journey is too many for you to understand and forgive. We sigh in sadness and stop before we reach your outstretched arms.

Words of Assurance

One: In faith, let us move towards a God of love, who is already moving in grace towards us. Open your arms to be received in welcome. All are offered the peace of God. Come into the home of healing, forgiveness and comfort. May the peace of God, who is our Loving Parent, be with you all.

All: And also with you. Amen

Faith in Action
Life and Work of the Church

Children's Hymn Jesus, Come to our Hearts
VU 324 vs 1, 2, 3

Theme Conversation

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,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the
glory,
Forever and ever. Amen**

Children's Hymn **VU 324 vs 4 & 5**

Introit for the Word

One: Open our eyes and hearts, God of sacred
story. Speak to us through these words. Show
us the way and give us strength to live in faith.
Amen

Scripture Readings:

First Reading:

Joshua 5: 9-12

Reader: These are our sacred stories

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm: **Psalm 32 VU 759**

Epistle:

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading:

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Reader: Glory be to you, O God

All: Praise be to you, O Christ

Ministry of Music

A Time For All Things
by D.E. Wagner

Sermon

Offertory Invitation

One: Our God is an extravagant God. All we have to do is look around us and we see that this is so. Why then do we find it so challenging to reach out to those who come knocking on our door? The gifts we offer to the ministries of this church help us reclaim shattered relationships and share God's extravagant love with the world. Let us present our offerings.

Receiving our Offerings and Par Cards

Offertory Hymn

Said Judas to Mary

VU 129

Dedication of Offering **VU 541**

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
 Praise Him, all creatures here below,
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer (unison)

We look for value in what we have and in what we do. Our worship focuses on the value of God's love in our lives. May we not waste that love. The love of God revealed in Christ Jesus renews our mission and guides our ministry. We gather to generously invest our time, our money and our dreams in that adventure. We invest our offering. Amen

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord, listen to your children praying,
 Lord, send your Spirit in this place,
 Lord, listen to your children praying,
 Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Response: Dear God, as a hen covers her chicks with her wings to keep them safe, protect us this day under your golden wings.

Closing Hymn Amazing Grace VU 266

Commissioning and Benediction

One: Go into a world that is too often profane and too often violent. God in caring love, for it is still God's world. May the name of the Most High give you strength and hope as you go.

All: Amen

Three-Fold Amen: Amen! Amen! Amen! VU 967

Organ Postlude

If you are a visitor with us, we give you **special welcome** in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ. If you are a regular worshipper, do you know the person in front of you, or even beside you? If not, why not introduce yourself?

Today's Service and Bulletin are dedicated in loving memory of former members of Silver Falls Church by a friend.

Scripture for Sunday, March 21st – John Woollven

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3: 4-14

John 12: 1-8

Greeter for March 21st – **Leonard & Mary Lou Cyr**
 Thank you goes out to last weeks
 Readers & Greeters for all your help!!

Prayer Corner This information is given so that you may “Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” (Rom. 12:15) Please pray for them.

Shirley Whitebone, Tashia Phillips, Leonard Cyr, Hartley Biggs, Marion Stackhouse, Marguerite Gault & Betty MacDougall

CHURCH & COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Someone has said that if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available through prayer, we might be speechless. Did you know that during World War II there was an adviser for Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every day at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace?

Let us as a group of people organize the same thing here at Silver Falls.. If you would like to participate: Every evening at 9:00 p.m. stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of Canada, our troops, and our citizens; and that our leaders will seek God's direction. If you know anyone else who would like to participate, please pass this along.

“Words That Last Forever!” A series of special services for our Lenten Season. Join us each Wednesday during Lent at 11:00am beginning Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Service dates are March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31.

FLEA MARKET/BOOK SALE/BAKE SALE – What do these have in common? They’re all happening here in the CE Hall on **SATURDAY, MAY 8**. Stay tuned for more details to follow!

Thank you to everyone who supported our cake walk last Sunday. It was a huge success and lots of fun. We raised \$390 which will go towards our youth retreat in May. Thank you to all who donated the yummy cakes.

It is with great regret that the youth group must cancel the mother's day tea due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict. All those who donated tea cups and would like them back may see Victoria and Andrew.

Come and join us for our Youth Retreat, "**Risk Taking Faith Retreat**". It will be held on May 14 to 16 at Camp Wegesegum (Chipman NB). This retreat is open to youth grades 9 – 12 of all denominations. We look forward to exploring the theme "Risk Taking Faith" in many ways; worship, games, reflection and discussion. Come and enjoy a weekend full of "F" words. Fun, Friends, Faith, Food and Fellowship, that is. See Victoria or Andrew for more information or visit www.risktakingfaith.webs.com

It's what you've been waiting for!! The UCW will be holding a **Ham, Beans & Scallop Dinner** on **Saturday, April 17th at 5:30pm**. Tickets are \$8 per person (\$4 children under 8). Tickets can be purchased from any UCW member or from the office at 696-1410. Hope to see everyone there!!

We are looking to add **email addresses** to our office computer system. If you have an email address could you please submit it to the office by calling Tammy at 696-1410 or email her at **silverfalls@nb.aibn.com**, so that she can add it to the system. Your help is greatly appreciated.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saint John is pleased to present a training session/workshop on Friday, March 19, 2010 at Silver Falls United Church, 840 Loch Lomond Road at 10:30am, entitled **Human Rights in Action**. Registration will take place at 10:00am. Please RSVP by March 15th to efry@nb.aibn.com or 635-8851. We are extending invitations to community members, government agencies, women who are criminalized, marginalized and/or victimized, and the family members of those women. A light lunch will be provided.

Students of Music from the Heart present

A BIT OF BROADWAY

March 26th - 7:30PM

Main St. Baptist Church

Admission: \$10; 10 and under: FREE

Tickets available from Music from the Heart 651-0579, Veronica's Music 657-2790

Tracy Friars & Steve Bell invite you to join them for an afternoon of Christian and Inspirational music at the Imperial Theatre on April 11th at 2:30pm. Both Tracy & Steve share a deep rooted faith and have been privileged to share that faith through music for many years. **Tickets go on sale March 8th at the Imperial and on their website** and range in price from \$30 – \$25 - \$20. It is anticipated that tickets will sell quickly so don't miss out.

Colla Voce, directed by Maureen Beckwith and accompanied by Charles Willett, presents "Petite Messe Solennelle" by Rossini, on Palm Sunday evening March 28th at 7:30 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rothesay. Featured soloists are Luan Salmon, Deantha Edmunds, Michael Andrew Smith and Robert Selby. Admission by freewill offering.

The Alto Mare Orchestra and Chorus, directed by Hok Kwan, present Bach's Cantata No. 4, "Christ lag in Todesbanden" (in English), along with other orchestral and solo works by Bach and congregational hymns, on Good Friday evening April 2nd at 7:30 pm at First Wesleyan Church, 399 Boars Head Road, Saint John. Admission by freewill offering, with proceeds to be directed in part to earthquake relief projects.

For Reflection:

" We leave our handprints on everything we touch. Long after the print fades, the impression they made lasts forever."

" People have to change their mind settings. You think negatively, you get negativity; on the other hand if you keep an open and positive mind... the sky is the limit."