



March 26, 2023

Melville United Church

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Melville United Church
March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Presiding today - Rev. Lynda Goy-Flint

Welcome

I greet you in the name of the one who calls us to join him, Jesus the Christ.

We gather in community today – March 26, 2023 virtually and in person. We will continue to offer both in-person and on-line services with printed copies being distributed to those without internet access who are unable to attend in person. We encourage people to come out to worship in the sanctuary. There is ample room to socially distance, and you are welcome to wear masks or not as is comfortable for you.

For those who are joining us online or by reading, we invite you to light a candle or tea light.

We gather on this fifth Sunday of Lent, a season when we are invited to introspection, reflection and spiritual discipline.

Announcements

- **The organ needs your help.** Our beautiful Melville pipe organ is in need of repair. We have carefully completed repairs and general maintenance. As you are aware things break. There have been issues with the Swell expression for several years now. At this time the Swell expression is beyond repair and needs to be updated and replaced with a new louvre drive motor. The cost to restore the Swell expression with a new motor will be \$3000.00. Please consider making a donation for this very worthwhile project in order for Melville to continue enjoying this wonderful organ. For the many ways to donate, please consult the Melville web site. For further information contact Ralph Rainford 519 843-3841. Thank you for helping.
- People continue to suffer as a result of the earthquakes that struck **southern Türkiye (Turkey) near the border with Syria**. People need emergency shelter, blankets, mattresses, clean water, food, and hygiene items. We join Mission & Service partners the Middle East Council of Churches, ACT Alliance, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and the Humanitarian Coalition to show tangible support for the people of Türkiye and Syria. You can be a part of these efforts by donating now at <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/earthquake-turkiye>. Thank you for your generosity.
- **“MID-DAY MUSIC AT MELVILLE” presented and performed by pianist BRAD HALLS**
“Mid-Day Music at Melville” returns on Wednesday, March 29 from 12 noon to about 1:00 p.m. Pianist Brad Halls will present music written by two of the great composers of motion picture music. American Henry Mancini, and French-born Michel Legrand are multiple Oscar winners for their film music. Enjoy selections such as *Moon River*, *The Theme from “The Pink Panther”*, *The Windmills of Your Mind*, *What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life* and many more. There is absolutely no admission fee for the performance, but a voluntary contribution to Melville to keep the heat and lights on and the piano tuned is always welcome.
- We're excited to invite you to our **annual congregational meeting today immediately after the worship service**. Coffee, juice, and light snacks will be provided. You can [view the report online](#). Printed copies will be available on Sunday at the back of the Sanctuary.

- **Arkell United Church** 600 Arkell Rd. Puslinch ON is hosting a **Movie Lunch Event: "The Passion of the Christ" Wednesday, March 29th 10:30 am to 1 pm.** Bring your own bag lunch. A hearty soup, tea & coffee will be provided. Goodwill offering appreciated towards costs. **RSVP to Peg 519-763-8883 before March 20th.**
- **Arkell United Church** 600 Arkell Rd. Puslinch ON is hosting a **Chili Dinner Friday, March 31st** with sittings at 5pm to 6pm and 6pm to 7pm. Tickets are \$15 each, children under 12 are free. Dinner is followed by the world-renowned Open Mic/Hootenanny. Sign up for your time in the spotlight. Contact the church for more information at 519-821-7623.
- **Jesus in the Movies** during Holy Week at **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.** Each night at 7pm a movie will be shown followed by a discussion, all free of charge:
Monday April 3rd 7pm – Jesus Christ, Superstar
Tuesday April 4th 7pm – Son of Man
Wednesday April 5th 7pm – Godspell
- **Centre Wellington Singers** presents **Love Songs for Springtime Saturday April 15 at 3pm** at Hope Springs United Church. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, and may be obtained by calling 519-843-6655 or from choir members.
- **Knox-Elora Presbyterian Church** presents **Naomi Bristow: The Yodelling Cowgirl! A celebration of Country, Western and Gospel Music Friday, April 21 7pm** Tickets \$15.00 and available at Wreckless Eric's, Magic Pebble, or the Knox-Elora church office
- **VON invites you to join SMART (Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together) Gentle Exercise Program Classes** at Melville **Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 am** as there are available spots. The 10:30 class is fully booked. Classes are FREE. Call Danielle to register 519-803-0144.
- **Friday or Sunday Coffee Time** – We encourage people to sign up to host either a Friday or a Sunday Coffee Time. It is not difficult! We'd be pleased to show you how. Sign-up sheets are at the Parlour Door. Please speak to Lorna Bevcar or Marg Frayne.
- **Donations to Garage Sales:** If you know of anyone moving, down-sizing or de-cluttering, please keep Melville and our Garage Sales in mind.
- As more and more people find their dollar shrinking, and having to decide between rent and three meals a day, the demand for food bank assistance rises. We ask you to prayerfully consider if you are able to **support the Food Bank**, either with a donation of food, or financially. Food bank use is up 35% over the last three years. The food bank has also calculated that a basket of food and goods that cost \$39.85 in 2021 now costs \$50.83, a 27.55% increase in one year. The Food Bank is asking for your financial support at this challenging time.
Most needed items (as of March 23rd):

Pasta Sauce	Mac & Cheese Side Dishes	Chunky Soup (Habitant)
Small Canned Soup	Pasta Side Dishes	Canned Vegetables
Cold Cereal	Peanut Butter	Juice
		Jam
		Canned Salmon

Well-stocked with:

Pasta	Spaghetti	Tomato Soup	Canned Chickpeas and Lentils
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- **Save your Used Stamps from Incoming Mail:** Cut off your used stamps, leaving a 1/2" border around them and give them to Marlene Tosh or put them in the Stamp Box on the shelf in the Cloak Room, where the Lift is on the main floor of the church. Marlene tidies them up and takes them to the Bible Society, to buy bibles. You can do this year-round!

- **Gifts with Vision: A Giving Catalogue from The United Church of Canada**

- Give meaningful gifts that make a difference with [Gifts with Vision \(opens in a new tab\)](#)! Each year's gift catalogue gives a glimpse of the breadth of our Mission & Service ministries and programs.
- *Gifts with Vision* has gift ideas to suit every interest, budget, and person. It's a great way to celebrate special occasions and honour loved ones!
- The gift catalogue is updated online regularly, and is fully refreshed every fall. It is also distributed in print with *Broadview* magazine, and mailed to each pastoral charge.
- **To order gifts, be inspired, or learn more, visit [GiftsWithVision.ca \(opens in a new tab\)](#) today!**

I invite you to join us now for a time of worship and contemplation.

Land Acknowledgement *Peter Chynoweth, **Gathering: Pentecost 1 2022**, p.33. Used with permission.*

We acknowledge that this land on which we gather for worship is the traditional land of the people of Petun,
Haudenosaunee,
Anishinabewaki,
Mississaugas of the Credit,
Odawa and
Mississauga nations.

We acknowledge that we live on this land as people who have agreed to share the care and use of this land as a result of treaties—the Simcoe Patent-Treaty 4, 1793 and the Haldimand Treaty, 1784—that outline the rights and responsibilities associated with our place in this land. May we be people who remember this with thanksgiving and respect.

Lenten Tenebrae *Won Hur, **Gathering: Lent/Easter 2023**, p.66-68, alt. Used with permission.*

Two candles are lit, as well as the Christ candle.

Though we yearn for great vision, many of our visions are limited.

Yet, we do not know just how limited we are spiritually.

We do not know that we don't know.

Content to live with illusions and self-delusions,

The people of this world do not even want to know wisdom and truth.

As prophet Joel said, when the leaders lack vision,
it is the people who suffer.

We suffer from narrow leadership, compromised integrity, and self-centred values.

We experience the suffering of God's people
on our streets, in shantytowns, in refugee camps and in every neighbourhood.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Response: Don't Be Afraid

MV90

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Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised, promised to be always near. 2x

Let us pray.

**O God, we long for enlightened leaders to emerge
who have the audacity to hope
and to declare the truth we long to receive.
How long must we wait?
How long must we suffer?
Or are we the ones who are to embrace the visions and possibilities?
Then open our spirits for us to embrace your truth.
Open our minds to receive your wisdom.
Open our hearts to love widely, generously, and deeply.
May our faith shine through us
and may we experience your kingdom on earth as in heaven. Amen.**

Hymn: Amazing Grace VU266

- 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed.

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
 I have already come;
 'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me,
 this word my hope secures;
 God will my shield and portion be
 as long as life endures.

- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
 bright shining as the sun,
 we've no less days to sing God's praise
 than when we'd first begun.

Call to Reconciliation *Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ communion for March 19, 2023 (Lent 4 - A)* <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. Used with permission.

God longs for us to sit by the still waters of love,
but we are too busy stirring up trouble
with our actions, with our words, with our inability to be God's children.
Let us bring our prayers
to the One who will restore us with goodness and mercy, as we pray together
our Prayer Seeking Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Prayer Seeking Forgiveness and Reconciliation (in unison) *Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ communion for March 19, 2023 (Lent 4 - A), alt. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. Used with permission.*

**Like Cinderella, Loving God,
we sit in the ashes of our hopes,
but you see us as your beloved children.
We pay strict attention to all who break the rules,
but ignore the grace which is poured out upon us.
We try to box you in with boundaries we can manage,
but you continue to burst forth to bring newness into the world.**

**Have mercy on us, God of forgiveness,
and open our eyes to your presence among us.
As you look at our hearts, may we see others in a different way,
not as enemies or strangers, but sisters and brothers of the same family,
kin to Jesus Christ, our Saviour.**

Words of Assurance *Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ communion for March 19, 2023 (Lent 4 - A) <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. Used with permission.*

The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us,
bringing hope, life, and forgiveness for each person.
**Now we will go forth as God's children,
sent to bring the good news to everyone we meet. Amen.**

Children's Ministry: Zacchaeus

Song: Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man *Traditional*

Zacchaeus was a wee little man
And a wee little man was he
He climbed up in a sycamore tree
For the Lord he wanted to see

And when the Savior passed that way
He looked up in the tree
And said, 'Zacchaeus, you come down!
For I'm going to your house today!
For I'm going to your house today!'

Zacchaeus was a wee little man
But a happy man was he
For he had seen the Lord that day
And a happy man was he;
And a very happy man was he

Prayer of Illumination *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word®**
Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1, alt. Copyright 2013.*

Gracious God,
illumine our hearts and minds
as the Scriptures are read,

so that by the power of your Holy Spirit
we may see what is good and right and true.
And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you,
so that your glory becomes visible
in our words and deeds.
In Christ's name, we pray. **Amen.**

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NRSV)

Samuel chooses one of Jesse's sons as king

YHWH said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve for Saul
since I rejected him as ruler of Israel?
Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way.
For I am sending you to Jesse in Bethlehem,
for I have chosen my ruler from among his children."

But Samuel replied, "How can I go?
For if Saul learns about it, I will be murdered."
YHWH replied, "Take a heifer with you:
I am sending you to Jesse.
Tell him that you came to offer a sacrifice to YHWH,
and invite Jesse to the sacrifice.
Then I will show you what to do.
You are to anoint for me my selection."

Samuel did what YHWH said.
When he arrived at Bethlehem,
the elders of the town trembled when they met Samuel.
They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

Samuel said, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to YHWH.
Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me."
Then he consecrated Jesse and his children and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they arrived, and Samuel saw Eliab, and said to himself,
"Surely, God's anointed stands here before YHWH."

But YHWH said to Samuel,
"Pay not attention to appearance and height;
I have rejected him.
YHWH does not see as mortals see;
mortals see only appearances but YHWH sees into the heart."

Then Jesse called Abinadab to pass before Samuel,
who said, "No. YHWH has not chosen this one."
Next came Shammah, but Samuel said, "Not this one either."

Seven sons were presented to Samuel by Jesse,
who said, "YHWH has not chosen any of these."

Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse said, "but he is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him;
we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until the lad arrives."

So they sent for the boy,
a ruddy youth with bright eyes,
and handsome to behold.
YHWH, "Rise and anoint this one."

Then Samuel took the horn of oil
and anointed the boy in the presence of his brothers,
and from that day forward the Spirit of YHWH
came upon David and was with him.
Then Samuel set out on his way to Ramah.

Prayer *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Connections Worship Companion**. Copyright 2022.*

Faithful God, we profess
That you are the light of the world.
Empower us through our worship of you today,
That we may live as children of the light
And be faithful witnesses to your love in the world.
We pray this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

May the words I speak and the reflection that we all share
find a response that is worthy of you,
most Just, most Loving, and most Compassionate God. Amen.

David Sparks, *Summerland, B.C.*

Reflection: Anointing the Outliers

There are many who have to stand their ground, even though they haven't had the easiest time of it; those who have had to make their own ripple, or wave, in the ocean. Lots of them struggled because they came from the wrong side of the tracks, or were mere children, or were part of a racialized or sexually oriented minority.

So it is with David, the ruler of Israel. The old prophet, Samuel is given a task by God, to go and anoint the one of the sons of Jesse the Bethlehemite God will tell him is to be king. Samuel goes, telling the community that he is there to make a sacrifice with Jesse to calm their nerves. When Samuel sees the first son, he is sure this must be the one to be anointed, tall and good looking, but God says, "humans see with their eyes, God sees with the heart." And so the eldest is passed over, as are all seven of Jesse's sons that are present. Samuel asks if Jesse has any more sons. Jesse says, as a sort of throw-away, that there is the youngest son, David who is tending the sheep. Samuel calls for David to be brought. And although the youngest and relegated to caring for the sheep, he is the one that God chooses to be anointed, to be king.

Those activists whom we learn of through social media and occasionally the news, are also not the

Ivy-League-taught or wealthy who take the lead. Many are outliers. There are many, but I'll just lift up a few.

Greta Thunberg, who is both young and diagnosed with autism, has been protesting on climate action since she was 15 years old. She has inspired climate strikes and has appeared at economic summits to pressure political leaders to meet carbon emissions targets.

Malala Yousafzai, a young woman in Taliban Afghanistan, was shot at the age of 15 on a school bus after writing an exam. The Taliban attempted the assassination because Malala was protesting education gender equality. Malala was injured severely, but made a miraculous recovery, and continued in activism, establishing the Malala Fund for humanitarian efforts, and becoming the youngest recipient at 17 of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Jack Petocz is a 17-year-old student in Florida began his activism in response to a Florida House Bill known as the "Don't Say Gay" bill. The bill sought to prohibit "classroom discussion about sexual orientation or gender identity" in kindergarten through third grade. Pelocz and other students worked to fight against that kind of hate and discrimination. He organized a school-wide walkout, which inspired other Florida students to do likewise. He is now the policy director for Gen-Z for Change, a nonprofit run by young people using social media to educate and mobilize their peers.

Autumn Peltier is an 18-year-old Indigenous rights advocate from Wiikwemkoong First Nation on Manitoulin Island. She began advocating for the universal right for clean drinking water at a very early age, raising awareness towards water rights and ensuring communities have access to clean, safe and reliable drinking water. By the age of eight she was attending water ceremonies on First Nation reserves. After learning of one community having a 20-year boil water order, she became a water protector. In 2018 at the age of thirteen, she addressed world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly on the issue of water protection. In addition to advocating for clean water, she has become an advocate and activist for all aspects of Indigenous life, history and on-going racism. Her inspiration and early knowledge came largely from her great-aunt Josephine Mandamin, an activist and Chief Water Protector for the Anishnabek Nation, a title that came to Autumn after her great-aunt's death in 2019.

All of these activists are young, many starting their activism in their early teens or younger. They are also marginalized in other ways, neuro-divergent, female in a male-prioritized country, LGBTQ+, Indigenous. They have not only survived in their work, they have thrived. And that doesn't mean they are perfect, but they are putting their heart and soul into what they do.

David is about to embark on a lifetime of leading. As commentator Jane Anne Ferguson offers:

He [David] is the outlier, the brother who is not remembered until last, because he is so far down on the inheritance list. He is young, maybe naïve, not as acquainted with the ways of society, because he has been in the fields with his harp and the sheep for company. Music and nature are good teachers of the soul. Sheep teach good leadership skills, because they desperately need good leadership. ... David has learned to provide direction and protection for his sheep, to lead them to green pasture and still water. He knows the value of solitude, singing, and prayer. God recognizes in David a heart that will look to God for direction, protection and abundance—and the ability to lead Gods people to these things as well.

In this season of Lent, the story of David points us to his descendant Jesus—himself an outlier, who calls to other outliers, offering healing and recognizing their potential to lead. They, in turn, witness

far and wide with great fervour, and so it goes. We are invited to look diligently for the next one who is to be anointed.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.
Amen.

Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

VU509

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1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Joys and Concerns

- Birthdays
 - Harvey Andrews celebrates 92 years young Today: Sun. Mar. 26th
 - Shawna Dunsmore celebrates on Tues. Mar. 28th
 - Norm Porritt celebrates 77 years on Sun. Apr. 2nd
 - Lorri Wright celebrates 75 years on Mon. Apr. 3rd

Prayers of the People *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Connections Worship Companion. Copyright 2022.*

Remembering the grace of God,
who calls us to lay down our burdens,
let us lift up prayers for ourselves and others.
Let us pray.

O God, we pray for our world,
that we may be responsible stewards of your creation...

O God, we pray for our loved ones,
that your presence will surround them...

O God, we pray for those who hunger and thirst,
that you may provide for their daily sustenance...

O God, we pray for churches,
that we may be empowered to do your will...

O God, we pray for all humanity,
that all may live in peace and harmony...

O God, we pray for those who are dying,
that you will assure them of your presence...

We thank you, O God, for hearing our prayers.
May we live in faith,
rejoicing in the power of your Holy Spirit.
In the name of Christ we pray. Amen

Lord's Prayer Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Minute for Mission: Educating the Ministers of Tomorrow: Jennifer Janzen-Ball's Work

You may think Mission & Service just happens far away from your church.

But the effects of Mission & Service may be as close as your local pulpit.

Mission & Service does a surprising amount of development in your local church, recruiting new ministers and funding theological schools. It even shapes the hymn books you sing from every service.

Another important way Mission & Service supports local ministry: by providing academic bursaries for students studying to become ministers and theological leaders.

“The church has a lot to offer in terms of witness to the community and supporting people who are struggling,” explains the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball, the United Church’s Executive Minister for Theological Leadership.

The money is really helpful, but the other thing that is so important to students is realizing that people throughout the church cared enough to donate to Mission & Service.

Janzen-Ball knows there’s more to a bursary than just the financial gift. “The money is really helpful,” she says, “but the other thing that is so important to students is realizing that people throughout the church cared enough to donate to Mission & Service.”

The Rev. Alexa Gilmour received one of these bursaries when she was still a ministry candidate. “I was a single parent, and I knew I couldn’t get through without support,” Gilmour says. “I felt blessed by God through people who donated and who, by giving, encouraged me on my journey.

“I have tremendous gratitude for that important role the church played in my life at that time.”

Janzen-Ball wants you to know that your gifts do matter.

“They matter both tangibly in peoples’ lives in a real way but also in intangible ways because they signal the support of the wider community,” she says. “The care of people who are strangers to one another—the importance and impact of that can’t be overstated.

“Giving to [Mission & Service](#) is an opportunity to support future and current leaders. Those gifts make a significant difference.”

Offering Invitation *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1, alt.** Copyright 2013.*

Susan Ivany, *Gathering: Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2022-2023*, p. 49, alt. Used with permission.

Our lives overflow with the goodness of God. *Ps. 23:5*
Sharing what we have so abundantly received,
we bring now our offerings and ourselves to God,
with gladness and gratitude.

Offering Hymn: When We Are Living VU581

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Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Offering Prayer (in unison) *Thom M. Shuman, **Lectinary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ communion for March 19, 2023 (Lent 4 - A)** <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. alt. Used with permission.*

**With you as our guide and by sharing our gifts,
we can indeed anoint others with grace,
prepare feasts for the hungry,
welcome the stranger,
and love those we consider to be our enemies.
Bless these gifts, and use our lives for others, we pray. Amen.**

Hymn: I Have Called You By Your Name MV161

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1. I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.
2. I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.
3. I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.
4. I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

Commissioning *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1.** Copyright 2013.*

Go peaceably,
looking upon the hearts of others.
Live in Christ's light,
even in the darkest valley.
Trust that he is able to open your eyes,
enabling you to walk by faith
in his name.

Change the Light

Watch. I am going to change the light and I invite you to change your light.
I'm not going to put it out, just change it.
See how it is only in one place?

Change Light and I invite you to change your light at home

Can you see it? Now it is moving everywhere, to everyone, with everyone.
Now everywhere you go today, the light will go with you.

Blessing *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1.** Copyright 2013.*

May the love of God pursue you,
the light of Christ enfold you,
and the Holy Spirit keep you;
as you dwell in the house of the Lord
your whole life long.

Household Prayer: Morning *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**[®] **Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1.** Copyright 2013, alt.*

Good morning, God.
The day has dawned with the gift of sunlight,
and I awaken from sleep
into the light and grace of Christ.
Thank you for this new day.
Stay with me, I pray,
shepherding me through all that the day will hold.
Lead me into pleasant places,
and give me the provisions I will need
if I find myself in difficulty or danger.
Whenever the cup of gladness overflows,
help me to recognize that it is filled
with your goodness and mercy.
In praise and anticipation I begin this day;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**[®] **Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1.** Copyright 2013, alt.*

With the night, Gracious God, comes rest,
and a chance for my soul to be restored.
You are with me in this and every darkness,
so I will not be afraid.
For all I have seen with my own eyes today,
for all others have helped me to see,
I give you thanks.
For those things that I did not notice:
signs of beauty and kindness,
evidences of your grace,
I pray that you will improve the eyes of my faith
so that I can see you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly tomorrow,
and all my tomorrows.
In the name of your Son, my Saviour, I pray. Amen.