

**Balzac Pastoral Charge  
of the United Church of Canada  
Sunday March 3, 2024 Lent 3  
Minister: Kelly Grittner, DLM**

**Music Ministry: Lee Dowan and Dr Alex Shawn**

**Prelude:** *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* - arr. K. Renfrow

**Welcoming and Land Acknowledgement**

“As we gather together, let us pause to remember that we live, work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the nations of Treaty 7. As Christ’s people, may we be people of love, of truth, and of reconciliation. May we live with respect on this land, and in peace and friendship with its people.”

**Gathering as God’s People**

**Announcements & The Blessing Bank**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world

**We light this candle as a sign that God, through Jesus, is always with us.**

**Opening Reading & Response**

**“To Worship”** *“Kneeling in Jerusalem” Ann Weems*

**Choral Response**

*I Am the Dream*

*MV 106*

**Call to Worship**

As we travel this Lenten pathway,  
we journey together, a community of faith.

**As we travel this Way of Jesus,  
we journey together, but also alone.**

Practising our faith:

**living Christ’s call  
to love God with all that we are,  
to love our neighbour  
as we love ourselves.**

Practising our faith:

**As stewards on the Way**

**Opening Prayer**

**God of the hungry times,  
God of the difficult times,  
God of all the times of our lives,  
we need to talk.**

**Sometimes it’s difficult to understand  
the direction we need to go.**

**With all the choices we have in our lives,  
sometimes we’re not sure  
when to say “Yes,”**

or when to say "No."  
So we ask for your guidance.  
We ask for wisdom.  
We ask for Spirit.  
In our worship, in our work, in our choices, in our lives.  
May it be so, loving God! Amen.

Hymn

*God of the Sparrow*

VU 229

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 10:25-37 The Parable of the Good Samaritan"

REFLECTION "If you lose, I lose"

Hymn

*We Are Pilgrims (The Servant Song)*

VU 595

Offertory & Presentation of the Offering

*Trust and Obey*

- arr. K. Renfrow

Dedication of the Offering

The bills and the coins  
and the numbers in the bank  
are symbols of the work of our hands,  
loving God.  
We offer them to you,  
that they would be signs and symbols  
of our worship  
as they go out into the world.  
May they be used in ways  
that bring healing and wholeness  
to all creation. Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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, 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

Hymn

*We Have This Ministry*

VU 510

Commissioning & Blessing

Let's go into the world as people of gratitude.  
Let's go into the world as people of hope.

Let's go into the world as people of joyfulness.  
**Let's go into the world ready to share Christ's love!**  
And let us go knowing this: we are never, ever alone.  
**The peace of Christ holds us,  
the love of the Creator enfolds us,  
and the wings of the Holy Spirit carry us,  
today and always. Amen!**

**Postlude**

*How Firm a Foundation*

*- arr. K. Renfrow*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Getting to Know our Neighbours Continues:**  
Here is the schedule for the upcoming worship service sharing after our visit to Irricana last week.  
**March 10, 2024 NEXT WEEK** at 10:30 am - Balzac and Irricana United Churches will be travelling to Airdrie United Church to join them for worship. No Zoom service this week.  
**April 14, 2024** at 10:00 am - Irricana and Airdrie United congregations will be travelling to Balzac United Church for worship.  
Activities have been planned for our Sunday School children. Both churches have invited our choir members to join their choirs. A service bulletin will be available in advance for each of the services.  
If you bring your Balzac offering envelopes to Irricana or Airdrie they will be sorted after service and brought back to Balzac United. Cash offerings will be designated for a local service program connected to the home congregation.
- **A congregational meeting** will be held after worship on Sunday March 17, 2024 to provide an update on the need to appoint ministry personnel for July 1, 2024 given the appointment for Kelly Grittner expires on June 30, 2024. The meeting may also include the consideration of any resolutions required to ensure the vacancy is filled on a timely basis. - Ruth Unser, Board Chair
- **Confirmation** – On March 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, there will be a Confirmation Celebration for Hannah Walkes. Furthermore if there is anyone who would like to affirm or transfer their membership to BUC formally, March 31<sup>st</sup> is an invitation to anyone who would like this for themselves to happen. Please contact Minister Kelly Grittner 403-219-3535 for further information and interest.
- **BUC Information:** For BUC activities and information, check out our website at <https://balzacunitedchurch.com/>
- **Minister Contact Information:** If you want to talk to Kelly Grittner, call him at 403-219-3535.
- **Purdy's Chocolate** - All you need to do is follow this link <https://fundraising.purdys.com/795875-116442> and you can make your orders directly in the online shop or through a catalogue Just look for **Balzac United Church**, and order! Please have all your orders ready before March 12th, chocolate pick up will

be on March 24th at the church. Email Victoria at [kvw10@telus.net](mailto:kvw10@telus.net) if you have any questions.

**First Third Ministry Corner**   
**Everything for our kids, youth & young adults**  
**Led by Angela Wigglesworth**

The email address for all Sunday school, youth and young adult programming for Balzac United Church is [BUcfirstthirdministry@gmail.com](mailto:BUcfirstthirdministry@gmail.com). Please send all Sunday school and youth group correspondence to Angela through this new address. She is also available to chat on her cell number (587)229-3878.

Our programs can't run without the tremendous efforts of volunteers. We are currently in need of volunteers to help with the nursery, either for one Sunday or on a rotational basis. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to help support this vital ministry. For more information regarding Angela and Victoria's specific group times please contact Angela Wigglesworth.

- March 24<sup>th</sup>: Miss Angela and Miss Victoria will be leading groups in M&S activities and preparation – Our youngest kids get activities just for them!
- Mission & Service Fair Is planned for the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2024