Balzac United Church
March 8, 2026, 10:00am
Guest Minister: Rev. Robert Mutlow
Music Ministry: Lee Dowan, Dr. Alex Shawn

Prelude *Praise His Greatness* arr. M. Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

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.

Lighting The Christ Candle

Call to Worship ***Water from the Rock/Well***
Come, let us worship in this Season of Lent,
Gathering at the well with Jesus,
Who meets us at the watering places of life
Inviting us into relationship,
Telling us the things He knows of us,
Revealing truths that change our lives.
Come, let drink from the water of the Rock,
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Opening Song *Come, Let Us Sing* VU 222

Opening Prayer & Prayer of Confession

Candles of Joy, Concern, & Sorrow
(Congregational members are invited to come forward and offer prayer requests and light candles.)
Holy One, as we light these prayer candles,
We give thanks for all your gifts to us
For warmth and shelter, friends and family,
For stories and journeys, work and leisure.
May we use this Season of Lent -
To bless the lives of others, to engage in kingdom work.
To care for those we know and those we will never meet,
Living Lent as a Season of Intention. Amen.

Song *And on This Path* MV # 8 (2X) (Seated)
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide (X3)
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide.

Scripture Lessons
Exodus 17.1-7 *Water from the Rock*
Psalm # 42 *As the Deer Pants for the Water* VU Pg. 766
John 4. 3-15, 27-30, 39-42 *Woman at the Well*

Message **"***Water from the Rock Moments"*

Hymn *I Heard the Voice of Jesus* VU # 626
(*Kingsfold* # 625)
(*Theme hymn – Nigerian World Day of Prayer)*
Offertory No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus
arr. M Hayes
Prayers of the People (*Adapted – World Day of Prayer)*
God, the Great Burden Bearer, we come before you as your children, to join our voices, with Beatrice, Jato and Blessing and all our Nigerian siblings and all around the world this day **who carry the heavy loads of systemic oppression.**

God of Compassion, we know that you see us. You see the discrimination faced by so many - women, widows, minorities, the poor. Some are overworked, in factories, fields, and homes, while others cannot find work to feed their families. **Gracious God, intervene for us all!**

God of Faithfulness, for the resiliency and resourcefulness of all who remain faithful amidst difficult circumstances**. Inspire us by their example and move us to build a better world.**

God through the Holy Spirit, we cry out for those displaced by violence, forced to flee their homes and become refugees in unfamiliar lands. Shelter all who are displaced under your wings, **providing for their needs and guiding them toward safety and new beginnings.**

God in Jesus, you called us to come with all the burdens that weigh us down. Grant us the faith to keep moving forward even when the path seems impossible. Help us to be a light to others, sharing hope and extending a helping hand where we can. **We trust in your unfailing love and your promise that you will never leave us or forsake us. Our Father…**

Closing Hymn *All the Way My Savior Leads Me* VU 635
Benediction
Postlude *People Need the Lord* arr. M. Hayes