

**Genesis Cooperative
of the United Church of Canada
in Partnership with the
Glengarry East Pastoral Charge**

***Consisting of the congregations of:
Alexandria, Cassburn, Dalhousie Mills, East Hawkesbury,
Kirk Hill, Pendleton, Trinity (Vankleek Hill)***

**Sunday January 22, 2023
*Third Sunday after Epiphany***



Worship Leaders Today

Trinity / Cassburn	9:30/11:00	Deborah Suddard
Alexandria / Kirk Hill	9:15/11:00	Merle Marjerrison
Pendleton	10:00	Rev. Phyllis Dietrich
Dalhousie Mills	11:15	Luane Doyle
East Hawkesbury	11:15	No Service

*“Surely God is in this place... help me notice”
(attributed to St. Lawrence)*

We Gather to Praise God

Welcome to our worship service today.

We pray you will feel God's presence as we worship together.

*You are invited to join in reading the responses and prayers, printed in **bold**.*

🎵Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Minute for Mission

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

🎵Sung Introit: “Arise, Your Light is Come” Vs1 VU 79

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey,
Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.*

The Call to Worship:

Based on 1 Corinthians 1:10–19

Now I appeal to you sisters and brothers because we all come with so many questions so many things that we need to ask God so many things that we don't quite understand. We bring all of these unanswered questions together in our worship and our praise of the One who reminds us that we belong. We belong here in this family of faith. We belong to each other and to our God. Praise God.

The Opening Prayer:

Based on Psalm 27:1, 4–9

O God, you are our light and salvation. Still, we fear. There is so much that remains unknown and uncertain. We push against you, but you will not push us away. You hold us close. When we wonder what the day might bring, you whisper, “follow me, I will make you: readers to little children, bandagers of bruised hearts, lovers of the forsaken, pilgrims who show the way to others.” We ask so much of you, O God. We want your beauty and comfort. We need your strength and peace. You hear our cries and answer us with your endless grace and love. You are our joy. **AMEN.**

♪Hymn: **“There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy” VU 271**

The Prayer of Confession:

Holy One, we have so many questions but we don’t pause to listen to your still small voice to your invitation to follow to your call to serve to your affirmation of our gifts. Instead, we push forward. We do what needs to be done, without aim or direction, responding to the most immediate demand for our attention. We cross it off the list and move on to the next. Forgive us. Forgive us for our preoccupation and our self-importance. Call us again to seek your face and follow the Christ. We are listening now. (*Silence is kept.*)

The Words of Affirmation:

Dear Child of God, God is listening. God has heard your prayer and wishes you peace. God forgives you and loves you. This is the good news. **AMEN.**

♪Hymn: **“He Leadeth Me” VU 657**

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture Lessons:

Isaiah 9: 1-4 The people have seen a great light.

Psalms 27: 1, 4-9 VU 754 God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18 Overcome division and find unity.

Matthew 4: 12-23 Jesus begins his ministry.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Message:

🎵 Hymn: *“Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies”* VU 336

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Invitation

🎵 Response: *“As With Gladness”* Vs. 3 VU 81

*As they offered gifts most rare at the manger crude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you our heavenly King.*

The Prayer of Dedication:

We are called to follow, yet are often slow to respond, God of grace. We are blessed with more than we ever need or can use, yet we are reluctant to part with even a portion of this abundance. As we offer our gifts to you, remind us that learning generosity is part of our call to follow the One who models your gracious nature in every word, every gesture, every day. **AMEN.**

The Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven ... (*found at VU 960*)

🎵 Hymn: *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus"* VU 626

The Closing Words

🎵 Sung Blessing: *"Go Now in Peace"*

Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

🎵 Postlude

Our Worship Ends – Our Service Begins

Announcements

† *As church, we are called to pray for each other
and for our mission in the world* †

The People of Ukraine;
Perth Road United, Perth Road ON



Question of the Day:

**Paul appeals for unity amid division.
How do we find unity amid the many divisions
of opinions on many topics?**

PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOUR ANNUAL REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED TO THE GENESIS OFFICE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. A DIGITAL COPY IS REQUIRED. COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE AGM FOR DISTRIBUTION.

Jan. 22: TODAY! The ecumenical service for **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** will be at **3 pm** this afternoon at **Saint-Grégoire Catholic Church in Vankleek Hill**. Your minister will be participating in this service.

Jan. 24: The next **Cassburn Executive Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, Jan. 24th at 7:30 pm** in the church hall.

Feb. 19: **Trinity (VKH)** will hold their **Annual General Meeting** on **Sunday, Feb. 19th** after the morning service. Committee chairs please submit your reports by **Feb. 5** so that the reports can be printed and distributed before the meeting.

March 12: The **Genesis Annual General Meeting** at **Cassburn United**. **Worship time change to 10:00 am** to allow for **Communion and AGM**.

The United Church of Canada gratefully acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Our vital, innovative, and healing ministries are supported by generous Mission and Service donations.

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Administrative Assistant: Gabrielle Becker

Administrative Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Announcement Deadline: Wednesday @ noon

Minute for Mission



Supporting Ukrainian refugees through Gifts with Vision

The scenes are heartbreaking: Families confined to underground subway stations. Children standing alone in endless lines at borders. Mothers printing their names and contact information in permanent marker on their children's backs lest they get separated—or worse.

Since the war started, over 7.9 million refugees had fled Ukraine, 90 percent of them women and children.

Gifts with Vision - the United Church's giving catalogue—has just unveiled its latest gifts to help them. A gift of \$25 will provide families fleeing from Ukraine with a hygiene package containing items like toothpaste, laundry detergent, and disinfectant.

A gift of \$38 will provide one food basket with staples such as cooking oil, buckwheat, canned fish, dried peas, and condensed milk; and \$40 will provide one hygiene package plus a supply of incontinence products.

“What really strikes me about the food basket is the attention to detail. It has chocolate and cookies in it. That speaks volumes about going beyond the survival basics and trying to build morale,” says Kathie Murphy, the United Church's Annual Giving Associate. “The hygiene basket is thoughtful, too. It's not just about personal hygiene - it also includes laundry and cleaning products. And remembering incontinence materials for those who need them is all about helping people maintain their dignity.”

Sarah Charters, director of the United Church's Philanthropy Unit, is glad the new gifts have been added in time for Christian Family Sunday. “It's a day the church sets aside to reflect on the importance of families. I hope people will be inspired this year to take action for families fleeing Ukraine,” says Charters. “We can't end the war in Ukraine, but we can do something to help.”

You can give a gift of food and hygiene through Gifts with Vision or by calling **1-844-715-7969**. Thank you for your generous support.