



February 18, 2018
First Sunday of Lent

Black History Month Worship Service
Lansing United Church and
St. George on Yonge Anglican Church

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

All Are Welcome!

The Lansing Faith Community welcomes you to this celebration of worship. We are a safe place for all people regardless of race, creed, age, abilities, cultural background or gender orientation.

If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guest book found in the entranceway of the sanctuary. If you desire to learn more about Lansing United Church, become involved in its ministry or would like a visit from the minister, please complete our card, entitled “I Wish...”, and place it in the offering plate or give to the minister directly.

We hope you have a wonderful worshipping experience today.

To assist you in our service:

*Devices are available for those who have hearing impairments.

Please speak to one of the greeters.

Throughout the order of worship you will notice an “” indicating when we stand (as we are able), and **Bold** print indicating congregational responses.

*A limited number of “Large Print” versions of the Order of Service and Announcements are available each Sunday.

Acknowledgement of the Land

We acknowledge the Lands known as Turtle Island that we worship upon today. They were inhabited by an Indigenous people who deeply cared for their land. They were sustained by the earth and waterways enabling them to form communities and helped to nurture a rich way of life. Over time the Settlers removed the Indigenous people from their way of life and decimated their culture. Treaties were signed at a great cost to the First Nation People. We worship on treaty soil, Treaty 19, part of the Williams Treaty of 1776-1923 between the Crown and the now Mississaugas of the New Credit that were shamefully acquired for our future benefit.

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome our guests, including members of Alpha United Church, to this service.

Lighting the Christ Candle:

L: A Holy Light broke through the darkness into the world, revealing God’s love to all.

A: Let the Christ Candle remind us throughout the Epiphany Season that we must not let fear and doubt hide the Light of Christ in our lives.

L: We light the Christ Candle for all the world to see. A Light came into the world, revealing God’s grace and love.

The Christ Candle is lit.

Moment of Reflection

“God gives nothing to those who keep their arms crossed.”

- African Proverb

***Hymn VU 606 “In Christ There is No East or West”**

***Call to Worship**

L: We gather to worship together ...

A: different people, different lives, different histories,

L: Yet all children of the same Parent,

A: created lovingly by the Source of all life!

L: We gather to reconnect with one another...

A: different people, different lives, different histories,

L: Yet all disciples of one Teacher,

A: Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.

L: We gather with different joys and sorrows, different hopes and fears...

A: different people, different lives, different histories.

L: Yet one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.

A: Let us open ourselves to the presence of God at work in us, among us, and through us.

Please be seated

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer *In Unison.*

Father of creation, whose Son, Jesus incarnated in time and whose Spirit enlivens our lives today, may we honour the height of your creation, the Human Family, in every hue that you chose to give each person. Jesus, brother of us all, may we witness this Unity of One, as you prayed to the Father "that they all may be one" through the Holy Spirit. Amen

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, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen

Listening For the Spirit of God through Scriptures:

New Testament Scripture: Acts 10:1-35

Response

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

A: we give praise for the presence of God through the Word.

***Hymn VU 575 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"**

Dwelling in The Word "It's All About the Heart"

Prayers of The People

Rev. Leonard Leader

Response MV 175 May We But Wait

**May we but wait upon Love's word,
Knowing our prayer is heard.**

**May we but wait upon Love's word,
Knowing our prayer is heard.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music "This Little Light of Mine"

***Offertory Hymn** VU 55 In The Bleak Midwinter, Verse 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

***Hymn VU 577 "I've Got Peace Like a River"**

Vote of Thanks

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude **Vocal Solo: "Love in Any Language"**

"The Worship has ended, the service has begun"

"Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise. I rise. I rise." - Maya Angelou

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Thank you to those who participated in our Service today:

Guest Speaker: Miranda Farrell-Myers

Scripture Reader: Margie Lyttle

Ushers: Gail and David Henry

Hosts: Anita Ratnaswami, Linda and Bruce Hemming and Members of Lansing United Church

Guest Choristers: Lloyd Chung, Joy Davy, Grace McDonald (soloist)

Members of the St. George on Yonge Anglican Church and Alpha United Church congregations, and other friends.

Our Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker, Miranda Farrell-Myers, is a Youth Ministry pastor who has been involved in youth ministry for over 30 years. A graduate of University of Guelph, with a Master of Divinity

degree from Wycliffe College (University of Toronto), she has worked with adults and youth from diverse cultures. Miranda has had extensive hands-on experience in Christian Education (children, youth, young-adults and adults), community outreach, team ministry, and creative worship. Her ministry has also been multi-denominational, including the Wesleyan Methodist, Baptist, United, Presbyterian and Anglican churches.



LANSING UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, February 18
Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday, February 25 – 10:00 a.m. - Second Sunday of Lent
Communion**

Scripture Reader: Elaine Kowalchuk

Ushers: Blanche Fernandez, Mary Jean Stephen

Hosts: Sandy Navarrete, Sandy Mitchell

Sunday, March 4 – 10:00 a.m. – Third Sunday of Lent

Prayer leader:

Scripture Reader:

Ushers:

Hosts: Marianna Shepherd, Brenda Burton

UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Tuesday Unit: Tuesday, February 20

Worship Ministry: Tuesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m.

Continuation of ACM: Sunday, February 25, immediately following our Service.

Meeting: Lansing Loft Team and Alpha Representatives

Tuesday, February 27, 6:45 p.m.

Outreach Activities and Programs

Lansing Food Bank: Wednesday and Thursday mornings,
9:00 to 10:45 a.m.

Lansing Residence Outreach Service: Sunday, February 25,
11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For **Pastoral Care** needs contact Rev. Bryan at 905-922-8394.

The **Church Office is closed tomorrow**, Monday, February 19, for Family Day.

Offering Envelopes: Please ensure that when filling in the front of your offering envelope and assigning your donations to a particular fund, that you assign **all** monies to funds. You can

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write your designation, such as Food Bank or Building Fund Appeal, on the “Other” line. Please do not leave it blank.

As stated in the Minutes, our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 7 was suspended due to lack of time. **A continuation of this of the Annual Congregational Meeting** has been called for Sunday, February 25 immediately following our Service.

2018 Lenten Study: “What We Talk About When We Talk About God” by Rob Bell

This thought-provoking book has been chosen for our Lenten Study because it confronts the status quo and challenges the reader to examine their position and proofs for God’s presence in creation.

If you have found yourself stymied in conversation about God’s presence or challenged to generate a healthy discussion about God’s presence in daily activity, I recommend reading Rob Bell’s book, “What We Talk About When We Talk About God”. Bell breaks open this discussion through his seven chapters describing how, in today’s cultural climate, we can talk about God in a meaningful way. The chapters challenge existing faith suppositions on the existence of God that influence how we articulate God’s presence to others. Through his book, Bell attempts to help us with our language and influence our understanding of God through spiritual practice. Rob Bell’s writings, ministerial leadership and work were noted by the New York Times in 2011, naming him one of the most influential persons in the USA.

The book is quite readable, and engaging, filled with scientific facts, personal stories and Bell’s relentless desire to engage readers to sense the presence of God in our lives with a new understanding and to provide ways for us to articulate these experiences in the circles in which we live.

There will be 6 sessions starting on Wednesday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m. for those who prefer daytime, and 6 sessions at 7:00 p.m. for evening-lovers.

Please register as soon as possible so the books can be ordered in the next week or two.

Daily Lenten Devotional Readings: For those who are interested in a daily Lenten Devotion, I recommend, "Why I Believe" edited by Alydia Smith. These devotions are centered on the question "What does it mean to follow Jesus?" How does one remain faithful to this journey, especially in times of uncertainty and doubt? The reading and reflections are from a variety of individuals who share their struggles and insights in their faith journey. Books are \$15.00 each.

Copies of **The Act of Lent: Preparation, Prayer & Daily Acton for Teens and Young Adults** have been ordered and are located on the table at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Our youth may pick up a copy at any time.

The Nearly New Shop is in need of hangers – of any and all kinds. If you have some to spare please feel free to drop them off in our Nearly New Bin at the front entrance.

Surface Parking at Lansing Church: As the level of activity grows at Lansing so will the need for surface parking at the south side of the church. We are asking all church members that unless you are involved in an activity at Lansing to please refrain from parking in the lot. Your help to keep these spaces free for the users attending activities at the church will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your cooperation.

- Lansing's Building Management Team

Hymn Sing takes place on **the third Sunday** (except February 2018) of each month. Three "older" hymns will be sung from 9:55 until 10:05 a.m. (10 minutes), prior to service. The hymns will be selected from a "Hymn Request Form" made available at coffee times so please take a moment to request your favourite hymn.

Lansing United Church "Building Community"

Ministers: The Congregation of Lansing, assisted by
Designated Lay Minister: Orville Green
Director of Music: Svetlana Gojevic
Office Coordinator: Jennifer Adamthwaite
Minister: Rev. Bryan Ransom

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World Day of Prayer

A global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

Worship Service:

Lansing United Church
Friday, March 2, 2018
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.
Light Lunch and Service

"ALL GOD'S CREATION IS VERY GOOD!"

Program written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Suriname

