

A Time Called ... LENT

Some of us grew up thinking that Lent was a time to keep personal enjoyment in check and to focus on personal guilt. That emphasis was to ensure we appreciated what Jesus suffered and accomplished in Holy Week. But Lent can also reveal the great blessings of being a Christian.

Historical Roots of Lent

In the early church, Lent was a time of training and preparation for baptismal candidates at Easter. By the fourth century, it developed into a 40- day period, following the biblical pattern of 40 days or 40 years of preparation and anticipation. In its early form, elements of penitence were included. Lent, in our tradition, is a time to re-examine and re-affirm our identity as people baptized into Christ's body, the church.

Finding Meaning in the Tradition

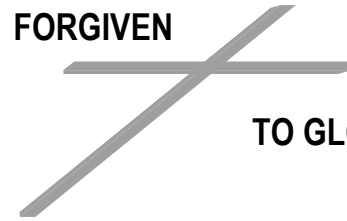
Our baptism is a symbolic dying and rising with Christ. In Lent, we turn with Christ towards these events in his life. Along the way the Spirit gives the opportunity for us to redirect and refocus our lives, and more fully realize our baptismal identity. We recall where we are going and what it cost God for us to become resurrection people. We become open to the possibilities of new beginnings all around us. The season of Lent points us to Easter.

Questions for Personal Meditation

Is there something in my life that needs to die so that I can move toward a new life with Christ?

What are the important ingredients in my Lenten journey? If I am not baptized, might this become preparation for a step of faith?

FORGIVEN



TO GLORIFY, WITNESS & SERVE



KITCHENER EAST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/521222015471767/>

<https://www.instagram.com/kepc10/>

Established 03rd May 1987

Minister:

Minister in Association:

Music Director:

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Richardson

Rev. Jeff Smith

Sarah Pottier

Sunday 18th February 2024 10:30 am

**The Church of Jesus the Saviour
Celebrates the Good News
of God's Love for the World
Made Manifest in Jesus His Son
as we learn to share Christ's Love with everyone**

Celebrating the Truth of the Presence of God – Alleluia!

Call to Worship:

Praise: “And can it be” vs 1 **BP #173**

Welcome, and announcements:

Lenten Liturgy: on screen

Celebrating the Truth of Forgiveness – We Receive New Life!

Praise: “Man of sorrows, wondrous Name” **BP #172**

Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer:

Celebrating the Truth of God's Word! - We are Listening!

Scripture: St. Luke 2:22-38 NLT

Message: “Tempted to not be Who He is!”

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Celebrating the Truth of God's gifts to us – We Are Accountable

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings:

+ Offertory

Doxology: “Praise God from whom” **BP #603**

Prayer of Dedication

Praise: “The wonderful cross” **SB #77**

Celebrating the Truth of our Going Forth – We Leave for Ministry

Benediction:

Interpersonal Benediction: “Lord be glorified” vs 3, 1 **SB #60**

WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS TEAM: PRAYER REQUESTS

Warnock Aitken – St. Joseph's Life-Care Centre, Brantford

Frank De Vries – at home

Pearl Howden – Trinity Village LTC

Bob Kenzie – Sunnyside Home

Mary Master – Conestoga Lodge

Dolly McCormack – Court at Laurelwood Retirement Home

Marg McCorrison – at home

Terry McCorrison – at home

Julie Phoenix – Southbridge London Long Term Care Home

Curt Ryan – AgeCare West Williams LTC

Shirley Steinberg – Highland Place Retirement Residence

Glen Verheye – at home

Sunday School:

We are having bi-weekly Sunday School running in 2024:

February 18; March 3, 17, & 31; April 14, & 28; May 12, & 26;

June 9, & 23. We have split the group: Grade 5 and under, and

Grade 6 and up, to create a more engaging experience for our older children.

We are looking for more Sunday School teachers, helpers, or back-ups to join the team. If interested, please contact Cathrine (gcejtaylor@gmail.com), Nicolene (nclemens7@yahoo.ca) or Johnson (srikanthjohnson@gmail.com).

We can't wait to share and grow with the children this year.

Peace and Joy, Cathrine, Nicolene, & Johnson

Worship & Sacraments Team: Soup Luncheon Fundraiser:

to be held **today** Sunday 18th February 2024 following the worship time together, and at the start of our Annual Meeting.

Mission Moment – Sunday 18th February 2024:

Two-year-old Moriama Safianu has a congenital deformity linked to hydrocephalus. Born into a poor family in northern Ghana, Moriama faced the heavy burden of social stigma, prompting her parents to keep her indoors to shield her from the community's hurtful judgments. Things changed when she was identified for support during a community survey conducted by a community rehabilitation program. The dedicated staff referred her to the Garu Presbyterian Health Centre for specialized care. The staff at Garu also worked with Moriama's community to address the stigma she had been facing. Moriama's mother expressed her profound gratitude: "I am immensely thankful to the CBR program and PWS&D for coming to our aid. Thanks to your intervention, Moriama is no longer subjected to stigma from the community members."

From the Finance Team: Offering Counters:

We'd like to add a few team members and provide full training & support to help new team members become established. We hope you will consider offering your talent for this role at a KEPC and can contact Barb Cook (519-998-2183) or Rob Gloin (519-781-4379) to discuss further.

From the Finance Team: options for financial giving to KEPC:

- 1) **Canada Post:** send your offering envelope in an envelope addressed to the Church: 10 Zeller Dr, Kitchener, ON, N2A 4A8
- 2) **E – transfer:** This involves using your online banking application using the e-transfer option & sending the transaction to the Church email: kepc@golden.net
- 3) **PAR: pre-authorized remittance.** This is set up once and an amount is withdrawn from your bank account monthly until you choose to stop it or change the amount. Contact Chris Clemens clemensc78@yahoo.ca and he can set you up.
- 4) **Tithe.ly** on our website, (click on the menu "Donate Now") and donations can be through your Visa, Mastercard, or Debit.
- 5) The locked, **black box** on the wall of the sanctuary by the main doors for your offerings.

Thank-you for your ongoing and prayerful support of the mission and ministry of KEPC.

Offering Envelopes: 2024 Offering Envelopes can be picked up in the front foyer, please let Chris know if any updates are required. If you are interested in having assigned envelopes for 2024 and are not on PAR, please reach out to Chris. For anyone that changed addresses in 2023, please let Chris and Mark know so that we can check our records and update them as required.

Grocery Cards:

We are participating in the grocery gift card program in our Region. If you would like to purchase grocery gift cards for the PC group of stores, and/or the Metro group of stores, please speak with Barb Cook, Rob Gloin, or Emmie Richardson. They are available every other week. We receive a small amount back from the Community Charity Services, for each card we sell.

2023 Tax Receipts:

have been prepared. Please check your hanging files. For those without files, they are in the mail and should arrive next week.

For those of us not yet retired, please check to see if your employer offers a Donation matching program, this can help make your donation go even further. Although I am not able to check on particular companies, do reach out if you have any questions. Thanks, Chris Clemens.

KEPC Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 18th February 2024 following the morning worship service, with a soup fundraising luncheon to start the meeting in the Gray Hall. Annual reports are available in the foyer.

EVENTS THIS WEEK: 18th – 25th February 2024

Sunday: 10:30 am – Lent 1: Communion Sunday Worship Service; Sunday School;
11:30 am – Coffee & Conversation, Soup Luncheon, & the Annual Meeting, in the Gray Hall.

Monday: 1 pm – Music Therapy
7 pm – Elders meeting in the Gray Hall

Tuesday: 9:30 am – Bible Study via Zoom
11:45 – 1:30 Music Therapy
6:30 pm – Sparks

Wednesday: 7 – 9 pm – Scouts in Gray Hall

Thursday: 9 am – Sonshine Corner in the Gray Hall

Friday: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Music Therapy

Sunday: 10:30 am – Lent 2: Sunday Worship Service;

VBS 2024:

Hello everyone and happy new year!

We are starting to plan our VBS at KEPC this summer and I just wanted to check in to see who would be interested and available in volunteering again this year.

Dates are July 8-12 9am-noon. The theme is SCUBA.

Please let me know so I can get an idea of interest/availability of volunteers, and we will start putting out announcements, etc to further our planning.

Kindly, Sarah

World Day Of Prayer

WDP Palestinian Christian Women's Committee
"I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"

(Ephesians 4:1-3).

Friday, March 1, 2024

11:00 am Service

Reception to Follow at

St. George's of Forest Hill Anglican Church

321 Fischer-Hallman Road

Kitchener, Ontario

www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

Livestream Link: <https://livestream.com/accounts/4258512>