

*Margaret Rodger Memorial Presbyterian  
Church*

*Lachute, Quebec*

Minister: Rev. Dr. Douglas Robinson (450-562-3006)

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Organist: Ian Vessie

Website: <http://pccweb.ca/mrmprc/>

March 11, 2012

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

**but we proclaim Christ crucified,**

a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

**but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,**

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Prayer of Approach

*Hymn: "Sing Alleluia"*

Children's Time & Prayer

**Prayer of Confession**

**We confess, O God, that we think we are something before You, and that just a little more wisdom or a few more signs of Your presence in our lives, and we would be one with You. And so, we deny the reality of the cross, and the reconciliation You had to achieve with us by Jesus' death. Forgive us when we have turned religion into a parade of wisdom or knowledge or into other means to congratulate ourselves, rather than humbling ourselves before You. Forgive us when we have condemned or dismissed others. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn: "In the cross of Christ I glory".....#208*

**The Word of God**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19

Pew Bible Pg.498

Large Print Bible Pg.504

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent reader*

*Lorna Rogers*

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-17.....Pg. 66

*Anthem: "A Prayer for Mercy"*

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Pg.166

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22 Pg. 93

*Hymn: "The head that once was crowned with thorns".....#270*

Sermon Title: **"We preach Christ crucified"**

**Our Response to God**

Offertory, Doxology, Offertory Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn: "Be thou my vision"..... 461*

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude

**Announcement**

Good Morning! Welcome to all who are worshiping with us this morning. If you are a guest, please sign our guest book.

*Today's Greeter: Bill & Clarice Muir*

*Next Week's: Joyce MacTavish & Bonnie Lavis*

*Today's Reader: Bob Cunningham*

*Next Week's: David Dowse*

*Coffee Hour: Everyone welcome*

## Prayer Partnership

**SUNDAY, MARCH 11**

*3rd Sunday in Lent*

Pray for the congregation of Burke Mountain as it continues to minister and grow in Coquitlam, British Columbia.

**MONDAY, MARCH 12**

Pray for Sean and Lezlie Allison. Sean is completing his Ph.D. this spring and has accepted a teaching position at the Canadian Institute of Linguistics.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 13**

Pray for those who are struggling with vocational choices. May they discern a path that satisfies their spirit.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14**

As schools across Canada take their school breaks in coming weeks, pray that children will be safe and participate in fun and creative activities.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 15**

Pray for young people who are considering applying for international Youth in Mission trips this summer.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 16**

Pray for the millions of people suffering with famine and drought in East Africa, and for Presbyterian World Service & Development's partners who are providing food, clean water, safety and shelter.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 17**

Pray for mission staffer Todd Statham as he teaches at Zomba Theological College, for his wife Annika and their children Mio and Sophia.

## Stewardship Moment

They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do. *Galatians 2:10*

## Mission Capsule: CANADA: Building relationships

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry (SNCM) in inner-city Saskatoon. Besides food, warmth, safety and a weekly worship service, the ministry now offers a tutoring program that allows people from the street to work towards the completion of grade twelve. When the ministry moved to its current location in 2008, some people criticized it for being a faith-based organization. SNCM Director, the Rev. Stewart Folster writes, "Now, (these same people) attend our worship service occasionally, and express how they appreciate everything we have to offer." Let us pray for this vital ministry that offers hope to a population that is too often neglected.



**Prayer List** - Please write on the sheet provided the names of persons you wish included in the prayer of Intercession.

**Presbyterian Carpet Bowling Club** Monday, March 12, 19, 26 at 7:00pm

**Choir practice** Tuesday, March 13, 27 at 6:15–7:15pm

**Bible Study** Tuesday, March 13, 27 at 7:15–8:15pm on Acts 13-26

**Board of Managers** meeting Monday, March 12 at 3:30pm

The after-school **Music and Drama** group resumes practices this week on Wednesdays, and is learning a musical and dramas based on stories from the Bible.

**Non-perishable food** items are being collected for our local food banks (Lachute, Brownsburg and Grenville) and for Citad'elle each month. The items are distributed through the Lachute Princess St. location. A

collection bin for this purpose is located at the front entrance.

You are urged to support the **Breakfast/ Snowsuit/ Christmas Basket fund of Laurentian Elementary School**, which includes a Literacy Breakfast Programme for Kindergarten and Cycle 1 students. (An offering of money can be made in the can provided at the front entrance of the church; the money is collected each week.)

### **Lenten Lunches**

March 15, 22, 29 at 12 noon

Two sittings for lunch, 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Theme of the services: Jesus' parable of the vineyard, and Jerusalem and her prophets

March 15: Isaiah                      Rev. Ed Buchanan

March 22: Zephaniah                Fr. Terry Paquette

March 29: Jeremiah                Rev. Paul Tidman

A choir consisting of singers from local churches is invited to practice at 11:15 a.m. at MRMP Church on the days of the Lenten noon-hour services (Thursdays, March 15, 22 and 29) and participate in the service.

Proceeds from the lunch support the humanitarian and development work of Presbyterian World Service and Development, working in partnership with church groups and agencies worldwide.

## *Catechism for Today*

Question 82: In which name are we baptized? Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Baptism is by use of water and in the name of the Holy Trinity. Acts 8:16-17 For as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 19:5 On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Mt 28:19; Jn 3:5; Acts 2:38, 8:16; Rom 6:3; Gal 3:27.

## *PWS&D Bulletin Bit*

### **The Journey to Food Security in Pakistan**

Farmers in Pakistan know what it is like to face reoccurring drought and the resulting damage water shortages inflict on their crops. If farmers are going to triumph over hunger and grow more food, they need steady access to water for irrigation. This is exactly what a PWS&D program is addressing in the Umerkhot region of Pakistan through the construction of water irrigation ponds. "This is a major achievement, because drought is one of our biggest challenges," says farmer Abdul Aziz Khan Muhammad. In his group, their storage pond provides water eleven months of the year to irrigate dry, cracked ground and grow lush, nutritious food. This Lenten season, you can help ensure communities struggling with drought have access to clean water and nutritious food through support of PWS&D.