



The United Church of Canada

Boiestown & St Thomas

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February 8th, 2026

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Today's Theme

Have you ever fasted? If so, why? Did you accomplish the purpose of your fast? Spiritual practice is a key part of our faith journey, but only if it enhances our spiritual life. How is your practice?

* Indicates stand as you are able.

The congregation shall read the **bold-faced print**.

Gathering

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Acknowledging Traditional Territory:

**Introit:* VU 374 Come and Find the Quiet Centre, verse 1

**Call to Worship:*

One: In the quiet darkness of night, God comes to us.

All: **God calls to us, inviting us to a life of deep spirituality and bold discipleship.**

One: And so, we respond to God's call by coming and worshipping this day, that we might be inspired, equipped, and sent forth to live the gospel out in the world, by loving and serving our neighbours.

All: **Let us worship the God made known in Jesus Christ.**

[Written by: Taylor Croissant. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

**Hymn:* MV 10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Opening Prayer

Loving God, you've called us and we've come. It is good to be together in this place. We come, bearing the marks and scars of our living, and offer them to your healing presence. Bless us as we gather—each one of us—that we may know your Spirit moving among us as we share our calling of discipleship. Bless us and bless our time together, so that we might be a blessing in your world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

[Written by: Bob Root. *Gathering A/C/E 2023/24*, page 43. Used with permission.]

Announcements and Celebrations

Creed: VU 918 A New Creed

Word

Prayer for Illumination:

First Testament Reading: Isaiah 58:1–9a

Reader: This is the witness of Israel.

All: Thanks be to God for the Word.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13–20

Reader: This is the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to Christ, the Word.

Meditation: Spiritual Meets Practice

**Hymn:* This Little Light of Mine

Thanksgiving

Minute for Mission

Offertory VU 540 Grant us God

Dedication

Sacrament of Communion

Prayers of The People & The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn:* VU 421 Lead On, O Cloud of Presence



Sending Forth

**Commissioning and Benediction:*

One: We go from here as a people whose hunger and thirst have been satisfied at the table of blessing.

All: We go as a people enabled to be the church:

One: to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

All: to live with respect in creation,

One: to remember that we are never alone.

All: and to live those beliefs in all that we do.

One: Amen!

All: Amen!

[Written by: Beth W Johnston. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

Blessing: VU 639 One More Step, verse 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A warm welcome to those who are worshipping with us today.

February 15, 2026 – 11:00a.m. – Doaktown.

February 17, 2026 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Luncheon at Central N.B. Woodmen’s Museum from 12 noon – 4:00p.m.

Pancakes, Sausages, Beans, Dessert, Juice, Tea & Coffee.

Adults: \$15.00; Children: \$6.00 (12 & under); Preschoolers – Free.

February 18, 2026 - Ash Wednesday Service – 7:00p.m. – Doaktown.

February 22, 2026 – Boiestown Annual Meeting following thr 11:00a.m. service.

March 1, 2026 – St. Thomas Annual Meeting following the 11:00a.m. service. Storm date will be March 15, 2026.

March 6, 2026 – World Day of Prayer Service – 7:00p.m. – Our Lady of Annunciation Catholic Church, Doaktown.

Mitten Tree in Boiestown – 28 pair of mittens, 3 pair of socks, and 2 hats. Donated to U.M.E.S. and Self Help.

Sacrament of Communion

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Loving God, Creator and Source of all, we thank and praise you with our lips and with our lives, that, having created us and all things through your Word, you welcome our prayer and praise.

For the goodness of creation and the potential flung throughout it,

We praise you.

For the law of love, inspiring us to holiness, and the call of prophets, correcting us in our many human flaws,

We praise you.

For making your love known in Jesus, Living Love and Holy Prophet, giving hope to the despairing, healing to the sick, forgiveness to the sinner, and freedom to the oppressed,

We praise you.

For teaching us love until those with power were so threatened they sought to take you from us, and then showing how nothing can separate us from your Spirit of love, not even death,

We praise you.

Therefore, with all that is, seen and unseen,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
we join in this hymn of praise and thanksgiving:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, it was Jesus who took a loaf of bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and said, “Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, “This is the new covenant; remember me.”

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who share in this loaf and cup may be the body of Christ: light, life, and love in the world.

In this hope and as your people, we praise you.

Amen.

We remember as we come to this table, this is not the table of this congregation, or The United Church of Canada, it is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God.

All who seek to be nourished and sustained and long to live justly and in peace with their neighbour, are welcome here.

Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith, and for the sake of the world.

[Distribution]

Let us pray,

For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you God.

Grant that what we have done and been given here, may so put its mark on us, that it may remain always in our hearts.

Grant that we may grow in Christian love and understanding, and that ours may be lives of faithful action, in Christ’s name. Amen.