



## *The United Church of Canada* **Boiestown & St Thomas**

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February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

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### **Today's Theme**

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The season of Lent is about recognizing we have fallen short of our potential: we're to Adam and Eve than we are to Jesus. That's ok though. We're not expected to be perfect, we're expected to try.

\* Indicates stand as you are able.

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

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### **Gathering**

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*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

*Acknowledging Traditional Territory*

\**Introit:* VU 412 This is the Day, verse 1

\**Call to Worship:*

One: As long nights give way to light  
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,

**All: we come today to be reminded of God's love for us.**

One: Like the green shoots of renewed life,  
stirring beneath the soil,

**All: we welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.**

One: In this time of reflection and repentance,

**All: we affirm our identity, we claim our security,  
as children of God.**

One: Come, children of God, let us worship God.

[Written by: Gill Le Fevre. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

\**Hymn:* MV 161 I Have Called You By Your Name

*Opening Prayer:*

**May your wilderness time, O Christ, inform our wilderness time, the wilderness time of this Lenten season and the wilderness times that we do not choose for ourselves. Help us to organize our thoughts and align them with God's love. Help us to breathe deeply of the breath of the Spirit. Help us to find your gift of living water. Help us to crack open and plant the dry seeds we have gathered so that spring can blossom with a plan that renews hope and purpose. Amen.**

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*Announcements and Celebrations*

*Creed:* VU 918 A New Creed

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**Word**

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*Time with the Young at Heart*

*Prayer for Illumination*

*First Testament Reading:* Genesis 2:15–17, 3:1–7

*Reader:* This is the witness of Israel.

**All: Thanks be to God for the Word.**

*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 4:1–11

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

**All: Praise to Christ, the Word.**

*Meditation:* Adam, Eve, and Jesus

*\*Hymn:* VU 112 O God, How We Have Wandered

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**Thanksgiving**

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*Minute for Mission*

*Offertory* VU 542 We Give You But Your Own

*Dedication*

*Prayers of The People & The Lord's Prayer*

*\*Hymn:* VU 644 I Was There

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## Sending Forth

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*\*Commissioning and Benediction:*

One: May God be with you in your challenges  
and in your celebrations,

**All: in our laughter and in our pain,**

One: in your sorrow and in your joy.

**All: We go into this week sustained by God's loving  
embrace of all we are,**

One: and God's merciful presence will guide all you do.

**All: Amen.**

[Written by: Gill Le Fevre. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

*Blessing:* VU 120 O Jesus I Have Promised, verse 4

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**March 1, 2026 – 11:00a.m. – Doaktown – followed by Annual Meeting. Storm date March 15, 2026.**

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

**March 29, 2026 – 6:00p.m-8:00p.m - St Thomas is going to host the Variety Show in support of the Self Help replacing their roof.**