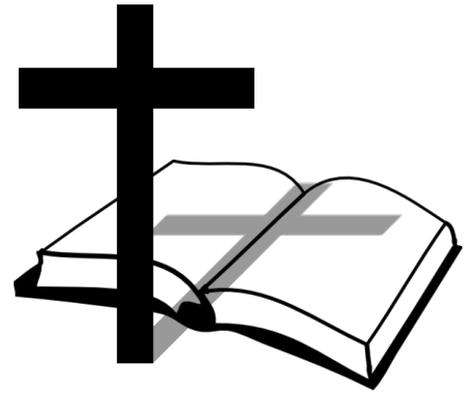


Woodslee United Church
Sunday, March 1, 2026
John 3:1-17
Minister: The Rev. Carl Emke
Pianist for Today: Diana Dennis



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP – PRELUDE

PRE-WORSHIP SINGING – (Starting at 9:50 a.m.)

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

REFLECTIONS and PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

We light the Christ candle to remind us that we want the light of Christ to shine on our time of worship; and that the words that the Pastor shares would point us to that light. This is the understanding of the symbolism of the lighted candle in front of the pulpit.

Jesus said in John 8:12, **“I am the Light of the World: the one who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”**

We are thankful for this year and this day when God has given us opportunities to worship Him with others of like precious faith. The Christ candle reminds us that we need Jesus Christ to guide us in each step that we take as we walk with God. We want

to 'step' in the light of Jesus.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: "Majesty" (Words and music are by Jack Hayford.)

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with souls that need to sense the presence of Your peace. In all of the things that seem to get in the way of our ability to feel Your love, hold on to us. Help us to see things as You would see them; to allow You to accomplish things in the way and time that You would choose.

We need You to give us strength for each day; for each moment; and for each challenge that we are confronted with. We need You, and we thank You for reaching out Your hand of love. Guide us in our time of worship this morning. We come to You in Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN: (# 292 in Hymns for the Family of God) "Because He Lives!"

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S SONG: "The B-I-B-L-E""

THE LORD'S PRAYER: 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 them that 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – A NEW CREED: We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Diana Dennis is the pianist for today.

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER: Please remain seated as the pianist plays # 400 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” (sung twice)

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: “Standing on the Promises (#69 in Hymns for the Family of God)

SCRIPTURE READING: John 3:1-17 p. 863-864 in the Bible in the pews.

SERMON: “Are You a Conduit or a Quagmire?”

OUR GIFTS IN SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH:

The Bible tells us: “Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits.”

We read in Deuteronomy, “No one shall come into the presence of the Lord empty-handed. Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your

God has given you.” The ushers will now receive the offering.

HYMN OF DEDICATION: MV #191 “What Can I Do?” (2 X)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN: # 147 “What a Wondrous Love is This?”

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Go Now In Peace”

POSTLUDE

Woodslee Pastoral Charge CCLI # 465534

Right after the service, please stay for a time of friendship and fellowship in the Hall. We hope that everyone can stay and enjoy this time together. The friendships are a blessing, and the time together is a treat. TREAT YOURSELF!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for all those listed on our Church Family Prayer List and those members living in care homes. Please also pray for family members of individuals who are facing the challenges of depression and the struggles that come with that. Pray for all of the people who are trying to understand their own feelings of loneliness and discouragement – that they may allow God to surround them with His love.

The sympathy of the church family is extended to Larry Bleasby and family on the death of Larry's wife, Cecile. She had been on our Prayer List. Her funeral was this past Friday. We pray that each one will sense the continued love of God in their lives as they remember the blessing of her life.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:

- Monday – from 12:30 - 4 p.m. -The Community Card Group plays euchre at the Church.
- Monday – evening – Karate at the Church.
- Tuesday – 1 p.m. – The 'Knotty Blanketeers' meet at the Church
- Wednesday – 11 a.m. – Community Lenten Worship at the Christian Reformed Church. No lunch provided, but coffee and tea is available.
- Wednesday – from 12:30 - 4 p.m. – The Community Card Group plays pepper at the Church.
- Thursday, 10 a.m. – Coffee time at the Church
- Friday, 11 a.m. – World Day of prayer Service in Comber
- Saturday, afternoon/evening, Golden Ladle Soup Challenge at the Church – 4:30 – bring your soup to be judged; and 5:30 – open to the public
- Sunday – 10:00 a.m. Sunday School and Worship

THE ANNUAL MEETING is on Sunday, March 22, after Church.

CAN YOU SMELL THE COFFEE?? Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m., the coffee is brewing and **YOU** are invited to join in as we munch, mingle and mindfully mull over whatever topics the conversation will unearth as we share in friendship. During the coffee time, the only agenda is to appreciate one another's company. We'd love to have you join us!!!

MODERATOR'S KITCHEN CONVERSATIONS:

Follow the Moderator on the kitchen conversations webpage and the UCC You Tube Channel. This will be found there every Sunday during Lent.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE – about what is going on in the wider United Church as a denomination, please google or call the United Church of Canada. You will be able to find out what mission causes are supported and what our official response is to various issues that arise in different parts of the globe.

Thought for the Day:

A wise man once said:

- HATE has four letters – but so does LOVE.
 - ENEMIES has seven letters – but so does FRIENDS.
 - LYING has five letters – but so does TRUTH.
 - CRY has three letters – but so does JOY.
 - NEGATIVITY has ten letters – but so does POSITIVITY
- LIFE HAS TWO SIDES – CHOOSE WISELY! REMEMBER – GOD LOVES YOU!

Sermon Notes

Please use this space to take notes

Woodslee United Church

2616 Belle River Road,

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Telephone: 519-975-2252 (Office) 519-975-2550 (Kitchen)

Service Time: 10:00 am

Church E-Mail Address: woodsleeuc@gmail.com

Website: www.woodsleeunitedchurch.com

Minister: The Rev. Carl Emke

Phone: 226-275-2118 **Email:** revemke@gmail.com

Typical working hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hours may change for meetings or
appointments.