

CALLED TO WORSHIP

Organ Prelude 40 Days and Nights - arr. B. Miller

Introducing the Lenten Theme

Call to Worship

Welcome, travelers on this journey of faith.

**We journey through the wilderness,
seeking God's presence.**

*We come, seeking light for our darkness,
strength in our weakness.*

**We take a deep breath,
and stretch ourselves to the limit.**

*We reflect on what is important
and why we do what we do.*

Be present as we worship.

Strengthen us on our journey.

Hymn 425

We Praise You, O God

Introduction to Prayer

201

**We come to ask your forgiveness, O Lord,
and we seek forgiveness from each other.**

**Sometimes we build up walls
instead of bridges to peace,
and we ask your forgiveness, O Lord.**

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

**God of compassion,
your faithfulness is never ending,
and your mercy is abundant.**

**You have created us in your image
with an everlasting love.**

**We confess our reluctance
to travel the hard parts of our journey.**

**We are quick to blame others,
and slow to accept responsibility for ourselves.**

**We desire some guarantee of your favour,
and would rather avoid
the loneliness of the wilderness.**

Fill us with your spirit.

Forgive us.

**Strengthen us with your presence and your love,
Through Christ, Amen.**

Pardon

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

⌘ Downstairs/Upstairs

⊕ Rings & Upstairs/Downstairs (see back of hymn books)

The Adventure Centre begins.



Into the Wilderness

Lent 1

February 18, 2018

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

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Prayer for Illumination

**Give us the courage, O God,
to hear your word**

and to read our living into it.

**Give us the trust to know we're forgiven,
and give us the faith to take up our lives
and journey into the wilderness. Amen.**

The Scriptures

Book of Psalms

Psalm 25.1-11

Gospel

Mark 1.9-15

This is the gospel of the Lord. 573

I'll love the Lord with all that lies inside me;

I'll love the Lord with body, soul and mind.

I'll love the Lord with all that lies inside me;

I'll love the Lord with body, soul and mind.

Hymn 198

I Hunger and I thirst

Sermon

Into the Wilderness

Litany

The path winds ahead,

going where we do not want to go.

Grant us courage to travel into the wilderness.

There are other paths that appear faster, easier.

Help us to resist avoiding the wilderness.

We glimpse darkness in poverty and injustice.

**Grant us courage to expose the wilderness
for ourselves and others.**

It is too hard, O God, and too dark a path!

Help us to find a light in the wilderness.

Remind us of the radical love that brought us here.

We reflect on the loss, we see the cost.

**When we face the consequences of the wilderness,
grant us courage to follow your ways
and to sense your presence.**

It is so rough a path, and we feel so alone.

**Comfort us through the hands of your people
when we experience grief in the wilderness.**

May we find a way forward together.

AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING

4

Invitation

Piano Offertory

The Journey - J. Brickman

Presentation of Gifts

Offertory Hymn 202 (vv.1,2) *We Lay Our Broken World
in Sorrow at Your Feet*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Prayers of the People

Our Father in heaven

Hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power

and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

SENT FORTH

Community-in-Action

Hymn 696

In Suffering Love

Benediction

Amen, amen, alleluia, amen.

Amen, amen, alleluia, amen.

Organ Postlude

Finale - W. S. Lloyd Webber

Welcome to St. Columba

We are so very pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We invite you to stay for refreshments (served in the sanctuary following the service) and look forward to meeting you in person.

Large print hymn books and Bibles are available in the foyer. (If you wish a receipt for your financial contribution, please use the envelope inside the back cover of the Book of Praise.)

With Appreciation

Thanks to the members of the Lenten planning group who are participating in worship during this season and have prepared our sanctuary for Lent. Thanks to Charlotte Adams, Erin Beettam, Bonnie Brown, Monique Caissie, Jim Goring, Amina Kreps and Janet McDonald

An Afternoon of Outdoor Fun!

The youth group invites all who are interested to join them this afternoon for some outdoor fun!

- 11:30 - Lunch (at church)
- 12:15 - Departure for Bois-de-Liesse (rentals available)
- 12:45 - Skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganing, and/or walking
- 2:30 - Return to Chalet for hot chocolate and group photo

Tax Receipts

Please don't forget to pick up your tax receipts from your mailboxes this morning.

Choral Group

Anyone interested in singing with the Choral group for Palm Sunday and Easter should speak with Michael. Practices will be after church each Sunday in March.

Maywood Luncheon

The next luncheon takes place **tomorrow** from **11h15-13h15**. If you can volunteer some time to help at the luncheon, please contact Cynthia Homan at 514-695-5451 or cynthiahoman@gmail.com.

Presbytery of Montreal

This **Tuesday, February 20 at 7 pm**, St. Columba is hosting the Presbytery of Montreal for their monthly meeting, beginning with worship. All are welcome to attend and learn more about the work of the Presbytery.

Session

The next Session meeting will take place **this Thursday at 7 pm (instead of 7:30 pm)**.

Concert: Romantic Inspiration with TwinMuse

If you love piano music, treat yourself to the stellar TwinMuse piano duo, Hourshid & Mehrshid Afrakhteh, playing music by Brahms, Debussy, Liszt and Lecuona next **Saturday, February 24 at 8 pm** (note later time). Suggested donation \$15, free for kids. A portion of the donations will go to *Youth Unlimited La Corde Pierrefonds*, a breakfast, lunch & after-school program for elementary students.

“Coldest Night of the Year” Walk

The St. Columba and A&P youth groups will be joining together for the *Coldest Night of the Year* next **Saturday, February 24**. This fundraising activity will benefit the St. James Centre and entails walking anywhere from 2-10 km. Please help our youth as they collect pledges this morning.

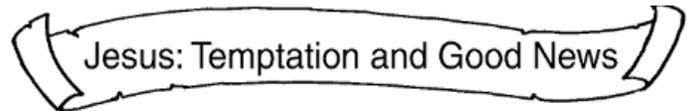
Afternoon Worship Service

A brief worship service will be held at Vivalis **next Sunday at 3 pm** to include seniors who are unable to get out to church in the morning. The St. Columba community is invited to come and make this a welcoming and meaningful service!

Save the Date

St. Columbans will return to the slope-side setting of Mont Tremblant for the weekend of **September 14-16**. More information to come, but write the date on your calendar and join St Columbans for a fun-filled, meaningful weekend with time for study, reflection and fun. All ages are welcome.

Kid's Page



When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River,
He saw heaven being torn open and He heard a voice.
What did the voice from heaven say?

Shade in all the shapes with a * symbol to find the answers.



“You are My _____, Whom I _____;
with You I am well _____.”

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY ST. COLUMBA



Dix Mille Villages

a non-profit store committed to providing vital fair income to people around the world by selling their handicrafts and telling their stories. Purchases help to pay for food, education, health care and housing.

Christian Action Chrétienne

an ecumenical project of Pointe-Claire churches helping those with financial needs.

Extra Hands

a group of intellectually challenged adults who work each weekday at St. Columba doing various appropriate tasks.

Family Life Centre

a joint project of 8 United and Presbyterian churches providing referral services, workshops & short-term counselling on issues of family life.

Presbyterian World Service Development

a national church fund providing aid for relief and development in the Developing World.

Presbyterians Sharing

the budget of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, a portion of which is used to support projects in Canada, China, Taiwan, Japan, India, Nepal, Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya, Mauritius, Ghana, Romania, Guatemala, Lebanon, Israel/Palestine.

Refugee Action Montréal

a joint mission of the Presbyterian and Anglican churches providing help to refugees and education to the churches.

St. Columba Music Centre

a teaching centre at St. Columba offering lessons in piano, guitar and voice.

Tyndale - St. George's

a joint mission of the Presbyterian and Anglican churches in the Little Burgundy neighbourhood of Montréal, active with community projects.

VOBOC

an organization encouraging people to "Venture Out Beyond Our Cancer" by giving opportunities for respite from the stress of treatments.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ST. COLUMBA BY-THE-LAKE

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Sandy Steadman & Ian MacDonald

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Caretaker

Carol Gauthier

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

10h00 - Worship

11h30 - Lunch followed by outdoor fun at Bois-de-Liesse!

Monday, February 19

11h15 - 13h15: Maywood Lunch

Tuesday, February 20

19h00 - Presbytery of Montreal Meeting

Thursday, February 22

19h00 - Session

Friday, February 23

09h00 - St. Columba Crafters

10h30-15h00: Window Marché

Saturday, February 24

20h00 - St. Columba Concert: TwinMuse

Sunday, February 25

10h00 - Worship

15h00 - Afternoon Worship at Vivalis

CONGREGATIONAL PURPOSE

God's spirit has anointed us and sent us
to proclaim good news to the poor,
to release the prisoners,
to restore sight to the blind,
to free the oppressed,
to announce that

this is the year when God will act.

Luke 4.18,19 (Isaiah 61.1,2)