

Montague Pastoral Charge

Sunday March 1, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Hillcrest United Church

Ministers: All of Us

Clergy: Rev. Timothy Wisnicki BSc. MDiv.

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Sheila Mallory

Director of Music: Anne White

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Bulletins are in loving memory of

Lillian Dixon

By sister Mary Matheson



Sunday March 1, 2026

** Congregation read the **Bold** print **
*Purple liturgical colours are displayed from
Ash Wednesday and through Lent*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *Welsh harp music played by Elizabeth Wisnicki in
honour of St. David's Day, March 1st*

Introit MV 161 – verse 1

**I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.**

Welcome & Acknowledgement

Youth Choir Anthem “Jesus Came to Show Us” (folk tune)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Candlelighters: Mo Wen, Rock Liu

Opening Hymn VU # 409 “Morning Has Broken”

Call to Worship (based on VU # 643)

Faith, while trees are still in blossom, plans the picking of the
fruit;

**Faith can feel the thrill of harvest when the buds begin to
sprout.**

Faith believes that God is faithful: God will be what God will be!

**Faith accepts the call, responding, "I am willing, Lord, send
me."**

We gather in God's presence, bearing the gift of our faith;

Faith great or small, young or old: it will be enough for God.

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Loving God, you have always led your people to places where
they can hear your voice;

Speak Lord, and help us to listen.

Loving God, you ask nothing of us but to be faithful and open to
you.

Help us to follow you in trust.

Lord Jesus, you came that we could live in friendship and fellowship with you;

Be near us, Christ, and help us to receive you. And as you taught, we pray: 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 those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Youth Choir Anthem: “*I’m Working in You*” by Bailey/Mayo
Solos by Hazel, Mo and Charlie

Children’s Hymn VU #356 “***Seek Ye First the Kingdom***”

Children’s Time

Children’s Prayer

Good News

**We celebrate you, in all that you do,
We love you; God bless you. We celebrate you.**

Passing of the Peace

(Children may go to Sunday School.)

Prayer of Confession

...moment of silence

Words of Assurance

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

**O God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Speak to us through these scriptures today, that we may hear your Word, and live.
Amen**

Scripture Readings

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalms 121 (VU # 844)

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Reader: Garth Steeves

The Gloria Patri – *Music by Alan Coffin*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Senior Choir Anthem “*Let the Children Come*”

by J. Paul Williams and Joseph Martin

Sermon

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn VU # 286 “*If You Will Trust in God to Guide You*”

Minute for Mission

Reader: Mary Martin

Invitation to Offering

Offering Dedication VU #116 verses 1 & 4

Giver of the perfect gift.

Only hope of human race,

Hear the prayer our hearts uplift,

Gathered at thy throne of grace.

Oh, may these our Lenten days,

Blest by thee, with thee be passed,

That with purer, nobler praise

We may keep thy feast at last.

Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Life & Work of the Church

Closing Hymn VU # 288 “*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*”

Benediction

Closing Blessing MV # 161 – verse 4

I have given you a name, it is mine;

I have given you my Spirit as a sign.

With my wonder in your soul,

make my wounded children whole;

Go and tell my precious people they are mine.

Postlude “*March of the Noble*” by Frederick Keats

We extend a warm welcome to guests visiting with us today.

Please join us for coffee after church.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

Office Hours are Mon. through Thurs. 9 a.m. to noon.

Clergy Visiting - Please let the office know if anyone in hospital, long-term care or at home requires a visit. If you are requiring **Pastoral Care**, please call Timothy at the office or 905-269-7381 or minister_hillcrest@outlook.com

Puzzle Exchange – check out the beautiful puzzles on our Puzzle Shelves by the offices. Please feel free to take one, leave one and/or borrow one.

Lost & Found – the box is overflowing – please take a look to see if you have left something behind – it is probably there. It is located at the back door.

Fundscrip Gift Cards – are available in the office for local gas/grocery stores and a few others. A percentage of sales of these cards goes to Hillcrest general funds.

Bulletin Memorials are available for March 22 & 29, April 5, and May 24. Suggested donation of \$25. Contact the office if you would like one of these dates.

Church Envelopes/PAR – if anyone is needing church envelopes or would like to switch to using PAR please contact the office.

THANK-YOU/GOOD NEWS

-thank you to Elizabeth for her Celtic harp playing this morning as our prelude – we so appreciate your talent

-thank you to those who were able to attend and participate in the Manor service this past week

-thanks to all our volunteers and participants who made this week's Community Luncheon another enjoyable lunch

-thank you to Kings. Co. Construction for all their snow removal in the last few days

-thank you to the painting crew who finished up the entry way and the Sunday School room

-thank you to A.D.L. milk who, monthly, donate milk to the Community Luncheon

THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST

Today

12:30 Bible Study on the theme "I have called you by your name".

We will continue exploring stories of God's call from both the Old and New Testaments, as they speak to our own experiences of vocation. All are welcome.

Tuesday

9:30 am Worship Committee Meeting

Wednesday

9:30 am Congregational Care Meeting



12:15 Lenten Communion Service in the chapel

2-4 pm Bridge group – New and experienced players welcome. For more information call Sandra at 388-8844

7 pm Senior Choir invites you to join this great group. Call Anne 838-2681 or just come along.

Thursday

Men's Meditation Group meets in the Shaffelburg Room at 9:30 for a time of contemplative conversation. All welcome.

Friday

Knitting/Craft Group meets at 10 am in the Shaffelburg Room - all welcome with your knitting, crocheting, sewing or other crafts or just come along for some friendship, coffee and conversation.

Sunday

Youth Choir Practice at 10:00. New youth are most welcome to join. Contact Anne 838-2681 or just join us.

AUCTION



Auction

Hillcrest UCW Online Auction will be March 18-27 with the pick-up of items on March 28th. Donations can be dropped off at the church during Nancy's office hours. Please give Nancy a call if you plan to make a donation or if you'd like your donation to be picked up. We would love to have "treasures" you are ready to rehome or a handcraft you would like to donate: good dishes, baking, pickles and jams, framed pictures - things new or "almost" new. As in previous years, 40% of the proceeds will be donated to the Southern Kings and Queens Food Bank.

UPCOMING AT HILLCREST



March 21 – UCW Beef Stew Eat-in Supper, Saturday 4 to 5:30 pm

– adults \$15/children \$8. Vegetarian and gluten free options. To reserve, please call Nancy 838-2698 or text/call Melissa 969-9339 by March 18th.

MPC Executive will meet on Tuesday April 7 at 7 pm.

Hillcrest Pictures – If you are looking through old photo albums and can spare any pictures of Hillcrest events over the past 54 years, we are gathering photos in albums. Thank you for dropping them off at the church and thanks to our photo organizer!

OTHER

World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Worship Service – will be held on Friday March 6 at 2:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Parish, Charlottetown.

Sing For Camp Abby – Saturday March 7 at Park Royal United, Charlottetown (11 Christie Dr.). \$20 each (12 & under free); doors open at 2:30. This is an 80th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser for Camp Abegweit.

Guatemala Mission - Tickets purchased!! From 28 May - 09 June 2026 Melva O'Connor and Corinne Ellsworth plan to travel to Parramos, Guatemala with the Arms of Jesus Children's Mission. If you wish to contribute to the work of this mission, please mark an envelope "Guatemala Mission 2026" and put in the collection plate. A charitable receipt will be issued for monetary contributions. Do you yourself or do you know anyone who could knit, or crochet little bears/dolls, or sew aprons or little dresses? We will be purchasing food hampers for families, shoes and socks for children, items for house builds, etc. etc. Help bring a smile to a little child.

Mission Story -- GRANDMOTHERS LEADING WITH LOVE

In Kenya's Rift Valley, HIV and AIDS have reshaped entire families. More than 200,000 people in the region live with HIV. Many children are being raised not by their parents, but by grandmothers.

Women in their 60s and 70s are burying their own children and then stepping forward to raise grandchildren. They cook, farm, comfort, and pray—often while facing stigma in their own communities.

In some churches, HIV has been preached as punishment. A sign of sin. That stigma isolates families who are already grieving.

Through partnership with leaders at St. Paul's University in Limuru, Kenya, Mission and Service has helped create something simple but transformative: a space for conversation. Grandmothers and pastors gathered in the same room.

One grandmother stood and told her story. She spoke of losing both her children and described the pain of being judged while loving her children fiercely. She spoke of her grandchildren, and her unshakable belief that God's love does not abandon anyone.

Pastors listened. They asked questions, challenged their own assumptions, and made commitments. They pledged to preach compassion, visit homes, and offer pastoral care instead of condemnation.

That is how change begins.

Through Mission and Service, we're helping to create spaces like these, where learning replaces stigma, and where churches become places of healing again.

When we give, we help grandmothers carry hope and love instead of shame.

Help love have the final word: [make your own commitment today](#) and make a gift for Mission and Service.