

# Corner Brook United Church

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Website: [www.firstunitedcb.com](http://www.firstunitedcb.com)

## Ministers:

Rev John van Vliet  
Rev Jocelyn Cook

## Ministers Emeritus:

Rev Clayton Parsons  
Rev Harry Whitehorne

## Music Director:

Jennifer Billard

## Office Staff:

Cathy Quigley

## Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10 am – 2 pm

We're able to receive bulletin info until **Wed. at 1 pm**

Rev van Vliet's email is [firstministercb@gmail.com](mailto:firstministercb@gmail.com)

His phone is **632-7129**. He tries to take Fridays off

Rev Cook's email is [13scoutie@gmail.com](mailto:13scoutie@gmail.com)

Her phone is **689-6795**.

## Washrooms

**Upstairs:** through the door to the right of the stage

**Downstairs:** the exit between the two coat racks

We strive to be a **scent free** facility.

# Corner Brook United Church

April 6, 2025



## **Gathering in the Presence of God**

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Lent 5 – Bread for Community

Rev. Jocelyn Cook

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### **Gathering / Welcome / Announcements**

#### **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

#### **Land Acknowledgement**

We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we gather. The island of Newfoundland is the ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuck. We also recognize the Innu and the Inuit as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful partnerships with all the peoples of the province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation.

#### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Introit** “We Will Take What You Offer” MV # 196

#### **Call to Worship & Opening Prayer**

Come down from the tree, Zacchaeus and friends. Come and worship together!

**The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.**

You are witnessed, worthy, and welcomed today by Jesus, the bread of life.

**The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.**

Let us feast at the table of love and justice, where no one dines alone.

**The bread of life has come to sustain us. Believing this promise, let us worship together!**

Let us pray together –

Gracious God, as we gather in this season of reflection and repentance, you call us from our hiding places and invite us to the table of grace.

You see us in our brokenness and meet us with mercy. You offer us the bread of life that nourishes our souls, heals our wounds, and strengthens us for the journey of faith. In this time of worship, open our hearts to your transforming love and lead us to greater humility and justice.

May this sacred time draw us nearer to you and to one another. Amen.

**Opening Hymn** “In the Bulb There is A Flower” VU # 703

#### **We Listen for God's Word**

##### **Call and Prayer of Confession**

God of righteousness and justice, you know our hearts and minds. While we center and glorify people who are talented, famous, conventionally beautiful, or wealthy, you see beauty in places we tend to ignore or neglect.

We confess we have judged people by their ability to fit into social norms, win awards, accumulate wealth, and perform with power.

We miss the Zacchaeuses of our times because we have overlooked the value of those who don't fit our standards, who struggle to be seen, or who are dismissed by society. We have neglected to honor the dignity of those unlike us or displaced from their homelands and have allowed our biases to shape our actions and choices.

Forgive us, God, for the times we have failed to reflect your inclusive love and justice. Open our eyes to see the worth of every person, and teach us to honor all your creation with the respect it deserves. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

God, may the scriptures we read today become living bread. May your Spirit empower them to shape us in Jesus' likeness. Give us wisdom as we interpret these words of scripture; may they nourish our minds and souls. Amen

**First Testament Reading**          Isaiah 43: 16-21

**Responsive Reading Psalm** 126 VU p. 850

**Hymn**          "Be Thou My Vision" VU # 642

**Gospel Reading**                      Luke 19: 1-10

### **Reflection**

#### **We Respond**

### **Anthem**

#### **Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**      "When We Are Living" VU # 581 v. 2

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.  
Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

.....words: Roberto Escamilla, 1983; music: Spanish melody

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, we offer these gifts as a sign of our gratitude for the bread of life that sustains us. May these offerings be used to feed the hungry, welcome our neighbors, and spread your love and justice throughout the world. Bless both the giver and the gift, that they may bear fruit for your kingdom. Amen.

**Hymn Before Communion**          "All Who Hunger" VU # 460

#### **Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

Holy One and bread of life, ... May we share it with all who hunger.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

We pray for those who feel unworthy or unnoticed... inviting them to taste God's grace.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

We pray for healing in our relationships ... restore what has been broken.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

We pray for the church, the body of Christ, ... reconciliation to a world in need.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

We lift up those who struggle with isolation ... your hands of healing.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

We give thanks for the example of Zacchaeus, ... make amends and follow your way.

**Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

Bread of life, we offer these prayers, trusting in your promise of reconciliation and abundant life. **Our Father...(VU # 959 (sung)...Amen.**

### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

#### **Invitation to the Table**

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Rejoice and be glad.

**We praise God with joy.**

Thanks be to God.

**We thank God with our whole hearts**

God, our great provider, ...Christ, our bread of life. Amen.

#### **The Words of Institution**

The Lenten roads are long

**yet full of gifts.**

The Lenten paths often seem chilly

**yet warm with the winds of the Spirit.**

The Spirit of God is the light that leads us in the hushed nights.

**The Christ is our companion on the journey in the intense sunlight of day.**

We remember his time in the wilderness-

**The struggles. The hunger. The peace.**

And as we seek the Divine in our midst,

**on this journey, we crave the bread of life.**

On our desert roads,

**we thirst for the fruit of the vine, the cup of blessings.**

Through Jesus the Christ's story, ... *Eat in remembrance of me*, he said.

And after supper, ...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Let us pray: (unison)

Holy God, you nourish and provide for us. Help us savor this timeless meal of the bread and the cup. May we graciously receive this gift so we might share its abundance with others. Jesus, you believe in the life-changing power of a shared meal. Grant us the courage and strength to ensure God's table is everyone's table. Holy Spirit, you are our great sustainer. Stretch us to find new ways of making sure those who are hungry become fed. Amen.

#### **Elements are Shared**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion

Holy God, here at this table, we have encountered Jesus' Spirit, bringing us wholeness so we might be satisfied by the bread of life. Because Jesus faced death and emerged victorious, this bread does not spoil; this cup never runs dry. As we leave this place of worship, our spirits are renewed and rejuvenated. There is enough for each of us. Therefore, we will share this joy and love with others. Divine Light of our Journey - In a spirit of gratitude we give thanks for this time at your Holy Meal. This time at the Table filled us with strength, knowing that as we continue on this Lenten journey, we will find your peace surrounding us. Amen.

### We Go Forth

#### Affirmation Of Faith

We believe all people, regardless of their past or position, are worthy of community and belonging.

We believe Jesus calls us to break down barriers, share generously, and restore dignity to all, just as he did with Zacchaeus.

We believe when we come together around a table, the transformative power of food and fellowship can heal divisions and create justice.

We believe in sharing resources, lifting each other up, and ensuring everyone has enough.

We believe all people are also worthy of safety and healthy boundaries around the table of Christ.

May our actions reflect the abundance of God's love,

creating a world where all are welcomed, safe, and have enough. Amen.

**Closing Hymn** "May the God of Hope...." VU # 424

### Benediction

**Choral Benediction** "One In Love"

One in love, one in friendship true,

One in hope, one in spirit, too.

One in faith that God will care for you –

Till we meet together again.

.....words and music: Judith A. Helms, 1989

### People Need the Lord

People need the Lord, people need the Lord,

At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door

People need the Lord, people need the Lord,

When will we realize people need the Lord?

### Resources Used

1. *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*. Written by **Rebecca Gaudino**.

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2. **Gathering: Resources for Worship Planners Lent Easter 2025**. The United Church of Canada.

3. © 2025 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved. [illustratedministry.com](http://illustratedministry.com)

4. A Communion Liturgy for Lent <https://michelleorigian.com/2021/03/07/a-communion-liturgy-for-lent/>

## Memorials

Gifts have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Mother, **Eileen Hiscock** and niece, **Darlene Dunphy** from Terry & Fred Gullage

**Roddy Poppy Kennedy** love Susan and family. Gone but not forgotten.

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## Announcements

No Coffee Hour this week. There will be Coffee Hour next week, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Services will be **11:30 am** until April 27<sup>th</sup>.

The next **Outreach Lunch** will be Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am to 12:30. We are always looking for volunteers.

### Holy Week Services:

**Maundy Thursday** - April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
**Good Friday** - April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am  
**Easter Sunday** - April 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am

### Seniors Services

**Lohnes** - Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm  
**Mountainview** - Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm

Oakland United UCW is having a **Spring Tea and Sale** on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. Tickets are \$10 and can be

purchased from Kay Hurley (709-632-2768) or Ruby Myles (709-632-8227).

There will be a supper meeting of the **Corner Brook United Church Men's Club** on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM. The meal will cost \$15.00. We will have a brief meeting afterwards to discuss any business, followed by a presentation on wills, estates and estate planning. If you plan to attend, please contact Bruce Penney by email, bpenney53@hotmail.com, or by calling 638-5549 on or before Sunday, April 13.

The **Corner Brook United UCW Annual Meeting** and election of officers is scheduled for Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM in the Lower Hall.

During the Annual Meeting and Celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Children@Region** will be meeting in Corner Brook at the Civic Centre. On **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 3pm**, all UC congregation children (Kindergarten – Grade 5) in Corner Brook are invited to a **Celebration Party**. Please **register** here: <https://ucceast.ca/90000-childrenregion-celebration-party-saturday-may-3-2025-10-am-3-pm>