

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH

March 15, 2026



The Road to the Cross: Jesus Upsets the Feast!

Sunday Worship Service

March 15, 2026, at 11:00AM
4th in Lent

* *Standing or sitting freely according to each one's physical condition.*

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE by Rodney Chase, Chair of Council

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST AND RAINBOW CANDLES

CHORUS FOR WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST: TLUS 30
We Are a Rainbow

We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,
We are peace in a world that's torn apart,
We are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,
We are love that blooms and grows in every heart.

We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace
For the flood of tears will finally cease to be
Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky
Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: It was like a dream come true when You freed us from our bondage and brought us back to Zion!

P: We laughed and laughed and overflowed with gladness.

L: We were left shouting for joy and singing Your praise.

P: All the nations saw it and joined in, saying "The Lord has done great miracles for them!"

All: Yes, He did make miracles and we are overjoyed! Now Lord do it again! Restore us to our former glory!

***OPENING HYMN: Give To Us Laughter**

VU 624

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Yes, Lord do it again! Restore us to our former glory! May streams of Your refreshing flow over us until our dry hearts are drenched again.

As God has greeted us, so let us greet each other.

At this time, feel free to welcome and greet your neighbor.

***CHILDREN'S HYMN: Neighbour Song**

TLUS 164

**Neighbour, I am your neighbour,
we are in this world together.**

**Let's care for one another,
uncertain as it is.**

**Neighbour, I am your neighbour,
we are in this world together.**

**I don't know all that you're going through,
but I'll be here for you.**

SERMON 4 KIDS

OFFERTORY and PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERING RESPONSE

TLUS 4

**Glory to the Creator,
and the Christ and the Spirit so near,
as it was from the start so it shall be forever
one God, always here, one God, always here,
one God, always here.**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that we are able to gather here and celebrate Your goodness as a community. Continue to bless us that we might be a blessing to one another.

The Word of God Proclaimed

SCRIPTURE: John 7:1-23

***HYMN: Forgive Us, Lord, For Passing By**

TLUS 120

Forgive us, Lord, for passing by
when children cry for bread.
Forbid it, Lord, that justice lie
in tatters cold and dead.
Outside these walls run desperate streets
where greed is law and life is cheap.
We bar the doors, refuse to see
or hear the words you said:

REFRAIN

Let justice roll like a river,
like a river, let it roll. (2x)

Convict us, Lord, we dance and laugh,
ignoring those who weep.
Correct us, Lord, our golden calf
has lulled our hearts to sleep.
The gap between the rich and poor
grows ever wider, shore to shore.
There's racial hate, religious war,
and wolves among the sheep. ***REFRAIN***

Indwell us, Lord, and purify
our hands to work for you.
Enlist us, Lord, to serve nearby,
and 'cross the waters, too.
Your image-bearers on the earth
will never know how much they're worth
unless we love and help them first
and show the way to you. ***REFRAIN***

MESSAGE: The Road to The Cross - Jesus Upsets the Feast!

MUSICAL REFLECTION

We Respond to God's Word

LORD'S PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***CLOSING HYMN: God of the Bible**

MV 28

**God of the Bible, God in the Gospel, hope seen in Jesus,
hope yet to come, you are our centre, daylight or
darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.**

**Chorus: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.**

**God in our struggles, God in our hunger, suffering with us,
taking our part, still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.**

**Those without status, those who are nothing, you have
made royal,
gifted with rights, chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
birthing new systems, lighting new lights.**

**Not by your finger, not by your anger will our world order
change in a day, but by your people, fearless and faithful,
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.**

**Hope we must carry, shining and certain through all our
turmoil, terror and loss, bonding us gladly one to the
other,
till our world changes facing the Cross.**

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING:**

TLUS 104

May the peace of Christ be with you.

May the love of God dwell deep in your heart.

May the Spirit enlighten your way.

May you walk in the comfort of God's care.

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

Important Announcement: Congregational Meeting

At the request of the governing bodies of Forest Hill United Church and Gibson Memorial United Church, the Pastoral Relations Committee of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council has called meetings to consider the pastoral relationship between Forest Hill United Church, Gibson Memorial United Church and the Rev. Eunkyū Ji. These meetings will take place on Thursday **March 26, 2026, at 6:00PM at Gibson Memorial United Church** and 7:30PM at Forest Hill United Church. The motions to be considered are as follows:

That Forest Hill United Church/Gibson Memorial United Church request a change in pastoral relations, ending its pastoral relationship with the Rev Eunkyū Ji, effective March 31, 2026, understanding the requirement to provide 90 days' remuneration in the same amounts as payable before the change; and

That Gibson Memorial United Church/Forest Hill United Church apply to the Community of Faith Assistance Fund of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council to assist with the provision of 90 days' remuneration in the same amounts as payable before the change; and

That these decisions be communicated to the Reverend Eunkyū Ji and the Pastoral Relations Committee of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council.

If it is the desire of the Full Members who are present, an additional motion may be presented at the beginning of the meeting to allow Adherents to vote on all matters.

Congregational Information:

A warm welcome is extended to everyone who worships with us today.

A friendly reminder that there will be a **potluck and Volunteer Fair** in the hall following the service. If you're curious about what different committees do or are thinking about volunteering and making an impact, this is your opportunity! Please stay, have something to eat, explore the various committee options, and meet some of the amazing people who help Gibson run smoothly behind the scenes.

About our Hymn Selections: Only the Voices United hymn numbers will be identified behind the pulpits. The text from **Then Let Us Sing! (TLUS)** and for **More Voices (MV)** will only be displayed on the screen and printed in the bulletin.

For those of you who would like to use a hymnal with the printed vocal music, a limited number of music edition copies are available from the ushers at the door each Sunday. Kindly return the copies after the service.

Upcoming Services:

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| TODAY | 11:00am | Shared Service at GMUC / Rev. Mike Bravener / Volunteer Fair / Potluck |
| March 22 | 11:00am | Annual Congregational Meeting |
| March 29 | 11:00am | Palm Sunday |
| April 5 | 11:00am | Easter Sunday & Communion |
| April 12 | 11:00am | Rev. Mike Bravener |
| April 19 | 10:00am | Shared Service at FHUC |
| May 3 | 11:00am | Anniversary Sunday / Potluck |
| May 10 | 11:00am | Mother's Day Service |
| May 17 | 11:00am | Shared Service at GMUC |
| May 24 | 11:00am | Rev. Mike Bravener |
| May 31 | 11:00am | Memorial Candle Lighting Service |

Minister's Office:

Rev. Mike Bravener will be working from the Minister's office Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am - 3pm.

Church Office:

The church office will be open for regular office hours, Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 3:30pm.

Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee is seeking at least two individuals to join the Property Committee, as well as a **Property Committee Chair**. If you would like more information, please contact the office.

Pastoral Care:

If you could benefit from a visit or a call from our Pastoral Care team, please do not hesitate to contact our church office.

Upcoming Community Events:

The Special Events Committee at **Nashwaaksis United Church**, 46 Main Street, is planning "**An Artful Tea**" from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on Friday, March 20th. Enjoy afternoon tea, sweets and sandwiches while viewing artwork displays, with some for sale, by students of Kathy's Kreative Art Groups.

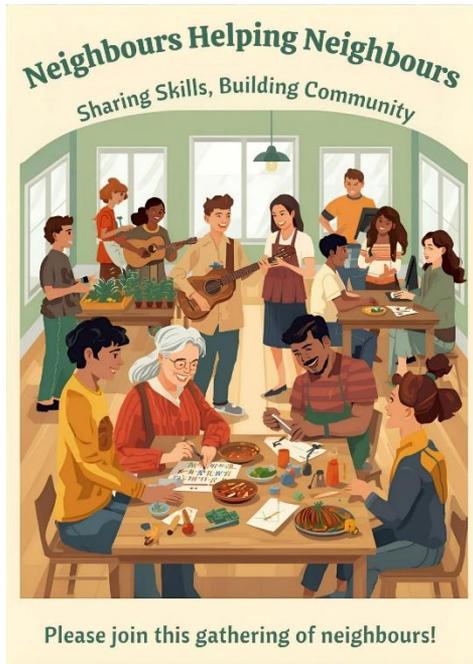
Neighbours Helping Neighbours: This is an opportunity to meet some new people while engaging in activities. You are asked to bring a project to work on! Suggestions might include arts and crafts, letter writing, repairs, mending, knitting, etc. Whatever interests you!

Next meeting: Friday March 20, 2026, and continue the *first and third* Fridays of each month.

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: Gibson Memorial United Church Hall - 183 Gibson Street (rear entrance and parking lot off Devon Avenue). Please note: If it's messy weather, please bring indoor footwear.

Email: neighbours.GMUC@gmail.com for more information.



Please join this gathering of neighbours!



Gibson Memorial United Church
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Tel: (506) 457-1951

Email: gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/gibsonmemorialunited
Website: gibsonmemorial.ca

Supply Minister: Rev. Mike Bravener
Music Director / Organist: Heather Fyffe
Song Leader: Caileigh Sullivan
Musical Guests: Alex Good, and Brian and Libby Cassidy
Zoom Services: Mike Oliver
Technical Support: Morgan Mollins
Office Administrator: Natalie Walker
Custodians: Marilyn and Alan Aube

Cooperative Ministry - Forest Hill United Church

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