

**The United Church of Canada:
Mount Forest-Woodland Pastoral Charge
Woodland – 9:15 a.m. Mount Forest United – 11 a.m.
Mount Forest United Church
April 26, 2026**

May God be with you: **and also with you.**

Announcements
Praise Band (MF)

Passing of the Peace

*Share in the ancient Christian practice of sharing peace & reconciliation.
Within our sanctuary, and out into the wider world.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Eternal God, who made this most holy day
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
set us aflame with the fire of your love,
and may it be a lamp unto our feet,
and a light unto our path.

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

* We Prepare our Hearts:

The people of God were made for worship:
To sing and to pray, to laugh and to dance.

**The people of God were made for God's presence:
For joy and hope and mercy!**

Come, holy people, the family of God in this place:

**Joined together, let our praises ring,
and our Hallelujahs echo on high!**

Let us worship our God! Hallelujah!

*Hymn: (WL) Come, Let Us Sing (VU 222)
(MF) O, A Song Must Rise (MV 142)

Opening Prayer (unison):

**Risen Christ,
We praise you in this season of new life!**

**Like dandelions breaking through hard ground,
You rise where we least expect you—**

**in ordinary places,
in stubborn hope,
in life that cannot be contained.**

**Teach us to be people of resurrection:
rooted deeply in your love,
bold enough to bloom,
and generous enough to scatter seeds of mercy,
joy, and healing wherever the wind carries us.**

**May we never hoard the grace you have given,
but share it freely—
in word, in action,
and in quiet acts of faith.**

**As dandelions brighten fields and roadsides alike,
send us to bring your light
to both green pastures and weary places,
proclaiming with our lives:
Christ is risen. Alleluia.
Amen.**

We Listen for God's Word

* Hymn: Small Things Count (VU 361)

Wonder Time

Prayer for Illumination: (MV 12, v 3)

***Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason.
Set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream.
Help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom,
come touch and bless our minds.***

Reading: Mark 16:1-8

These words are offered as wisdom for our journey.
May we walk together in their truth.

Ministry of Music/Choir

Sermon: I Hope That We Can Be Different

- * Hymn: (WL) Lord, Speak to Me (VU 589)
(MF) My Love Colours Outside the Lines (MV 138)

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering for the Work and Witness of the Church
Offertory

- * Offering Response: (MV 135)
***Called by earth & sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life, sanctified,
called by earth & sky.***

- * Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People
A New Creed (VU p 918)

We Go Out to Love & Serve God's World

- * Hymn: Praise the Lord (VU 245)
- * Sending Forth
We scatter like seeds on the wind!
Rejoicing in life that cannot be contained!
We scatter to grow joy and hope and love:
We will share the good news!
For Christ is risen!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah
- * Sung Benediction: You Shall Go Out with Joy (VU p 884)

