

**Grey Street United Church**  
**March 17, 2019**

Take Up the Challenge – A Lenten Spiritual Practice  
**Second Sunday Of Lent**  
The challenge of Gratitude

\* Stand as you are able. Words in **bold** spoken by all.

\*GATHERING SONG: – “Kanata Sanctus”

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH:

\*HYMN: - VU 111 “As The Sun With Longer Journey”

A JOURNEY WITH JESUS: – Lenten Candle Liturgy

*(second purple candle is extinguished)*

SUNG RESPONSE: - “The Glory of Our God”  
*(tune VU 162)*

OPENING PRAYER and LORD’S PRAYER:  
*(sung to “Kum-Ba-Ya” v. 1-4)*

ANTHEM: – “Hold to God's Unchanging Hand”

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART:  
*Promises*

THIS WEEKS LENTEN CHALLENGE:

*This week, your challenge is to express gratitude. We would like you to make a point of saying thanks to someone who you don't often thank in your life. It might be a stranger or someone you see regularly. Try to do this every day. Try to make a difference everyday and be more specific than just saying thank you.*

*The other part of the challenge is to make a list every day of at least three things you see in nature, or things that happen to throughout your day, or people you encounter - that you are grateful for.*

VIDEO: - “Gratitude”

\*HYMN: - VU 750 “Lift Up The Gates Eternal”  
*(Psalm 24 v. 1-4)*

SCRIPTURE READING:

Genesis 15:1-18 - *God’s Covenant with Abram*

Luke 13:31-35 - *Jesus sorrow for Jerusalem*

We give God thanks for these readings  
of Holy Scripture ...

**AMEN**

MESSAGE: - *The problem with a promise*

\*HYMN: - VU 766 “As The Deer Pants For The Water”

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:

*VIDEO:* – “Moderator’s Lenten Message”

OFFERING:

*During this time, feel free to light a candle in prayer.*

\*OFFERING HYMN: “All Things Come From You”  
*(sung to the tune of Kum-ba-ya)*

\*OFFERATORY PRAYER:

PRAYER INTROIT: VU 865 “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERSESSION:

\*HYMN: - VU 104 “We Have Come At Christ’s Own  
Bidding”

SENDING FORTH:

\*SUNG BENEDICTION: - VU 967 “Amen”

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ Be with You...

**and also with you.**

POSTLUDE:

## Genesis 15:1-18 *(New International Version)*

### The LORD's Covenant With Abram

**15** <sup>1</sup> After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield,[a] your very great reward.[b]”  
<sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit[c] my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?”<sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”  
<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.”<sup>5</sup> He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring[d] be.”  
<sup>6</sup> Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.  
<sup>7</sup> He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.”  
<sup>8</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”  
<sup>9</sup> So the LORD said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”  
<sup>10</sup> Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.  
<sup>11</sup> Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.  
<sup>12</sup> As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to him, “Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there.<sup>14</sup> But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.<sup>15</sup> You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age.<sup>16</sup> In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”  
<sup>17</sup> When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.<sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi[e] of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates—

## Grey Street United Church

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