

**Sunday March 22th 2019 Lent Four
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service**



candle, also known as the Christ candle, represents Jesus who we as Christians believe to be our Saviour; the pure light. Each of the outer candles has a Lament attached to it. This week, the fourth candle we extinguish is for the Lament of our world in the time of COVID 19. There couldn't possibly be a more timely occasion to focus on this.

Response: David: *When we reflect on this theme of the global effects of Covid 19,, some of us turn to prayer. I share the Moderator's prayer with you now. In this time of COVID-19, we pray:*

*When we aren't sure, God,
help us be calm;
when information comes
from all sides, correct and not,
help us to discern;
when fear makes it hard to breathe,
and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,
slow us down, God;
help us to reach out with our hearts,
when we can't touch with our hands;
help us to be socially connected,
when we have to be socially distant;
help us to love as perfectly as we can,
knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."*

*For the doctors, we pray,
for the nurses, we pray,
for the technicians and the janitors and the*

Prelude

Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement

Announcements 1.From the Website

2. And how to find us on the Website and Facebook

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Prayer

Time with the children

Children's Song: MV145

Draw the Circle Wide, verse 2

Larry Scott

The Tenebrae (Shelagh) The extinguishing of these candles symbolizes the light of Jesus, slowly but surely, fighting to overcome the darkness. The closer we get to Good Friday, the less light there is. On Good Friday itself, even the centre candle is extinguished, in addition to all of the exterior candles. This central

*aides and the caregivers, we pray,
for the researchers and theorists,
the epidemiologists and investigators,
for those who are sick,
and those who are grieving, we pray,
for all who are affected,
all around the world...
we pray
for safety,
for health,
for wholeness.*

*May we feed the hungry,
give drink to the thirsty,
clothe the naked and house those without homes;
may we walk with those who feel they are alone,
and may we do all that we can to heal
the sick—
in spite of the epidemic,
in spite of the fear.*

*Help us, O God,
that we might help each other.*

So for this fourth week of Lent, it is indeed our prayer that you will be reminded that one day all of the righteous hopes for our lives, as well as hopes for this broken world, will be fulfilled.

In the meantime, we must continue to strive to bring this hope wherever we go as we strive to be one of the many signs of God in the Heart of the City.

Scripture:	Psalm 23	David Bray
	This is part of our story. Thanks be to God!	
Hymn VU623	<i>Dear Weaver of Our Live's Design</i>	Dorian/Parry

Reflection:	Shelagh
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Prayers of the People

Hymn: On Eagles Wings

Postlude

Services

9:00 a.m. Communion in the Chapel

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Lead Minister
Director of Music Ministry
Sunday School Leader
Building Supervisor

Shelagh MacKinnon
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11:00 am ~ Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday March 22nd 2020

Lent Four

932 Balmoral Road

Victoria, BC V8T 1A8

www.firstmetvictoria.com

First Metropolitan United Church of Canada acknowledges and respects that we live, work and worship on the traditional territory of the WSÁNEĆ (Saanich), Lkwungen (Songhees), Wyomilth (Esquimalt) peoples of the Coast Salish Nation. Their historical stewardship of this beautiful land continues to this day.