



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.

## H O L Y W E E K



Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
Thursday, April 2, 2026 7:30pm  
Maundy Thursday

Rev. Jean Ward and Rev. Nigel Weaver  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music  
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

2.

\*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses indicated in ***bold italics*** and unison in **bold** text.

### **Introit**

E. Daley

This is the night of tears, the three days' space,  
sorrow abiding of the eventide,  
until the day shall break with the risen Christ,  
and hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied.  
(Peter Abelard, 1079-1142)

Alone or with another,  
by threes, in groups of four,  
singing quietly as they travelled,  
they arrived  
the women and children first  
then the men.

### **Psalm 42**

VU page 767 (verse 1 and refrain)

**As a deer seeks flowing waters, weary from the chase  
so my soul, O God, is thirsting to behold your face.**

**You command my steadfast love,  
in you my soul may quiet be;  
you my rock, my help, my refuge,  
set my spirit free.**

They climbed the stairs...

The company gathered, Jesus said:

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' (John 14:27)

***Jesus, you shared peace  
around a table of anxiety,  
peace with the bread, peace with the wine,  
peace in the face of the uncertain,  
peace in the face of pain.***

***May we share tables of peace  
in places of pain,  
sharing food and friendship  
and words and life.  
Because you came to a fearful world  
and found your place  
around those tables. Amen.***

Lamps lit  
table laid  
food ready  
blessing said  
they began to share the meal....

'Peter, the truth of the matter is this,  
that if I do not wash you  
you have no part with me.'  
'Then wash me, Lord, from head to toe.'

In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

VU #92 (verse 2)

**Light of nations, veiled in history,  
Born of woman's flesh and blood,  
Calling to the depths of mystery  
Restless hearts that seek the good.  
Healing every human story,  
Word made flesh reveals his glory.**

Coming full circle...

Do this not as servants  
but as friends  
for I call each of you my friend.

O Eternal Wisdom,  
we praise you and give you thanks,  
because you laid aside your power as a garment,  
and took upon you the form of a slave.  
You became obedient unto death, even death on a cross,  
receiving authority and comfort  
from the hands of a woman;

4.

for God chose what is weak in the world  
to shame the strong,  
and God chose what is low and despised in the world,  
even things that are not,  
to bring to nothing things that are.

***Therefore, with the woman who gave you birth,  
the women who befriended you and fed you,  
who argued with you and touched you,  
the woman who anointed you for death,  
the women who met you, risen from the dead,  
and with all your lovers throughout the ages,  
we praise you.***

For blessed are you, Jesus, our sibling,  
who on this night, before Passover,  
rose from supper, laid aside your garments,  
took a towel and poured water,  
and washed your disciples' feet, saying to them:  
'If I, your Lord and Teacher,  
have washed your feet,  
you also ought to wash one another's feet.  
If you know these things,  
blessed are you if you do them.  
If I do not wash you,  
you have no part in me.'

***Come now, tender spirit of our God,  
wash us and make us one body in Christ;  
that, as we are bound together  
in this gesture of love,  
we may know your liberating peace  
such as the world cannot give.***

## **Hand Washing**

Gathered round the table Jesus took bread and blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then, later in the meal, he took a cup and poured wine into it. Each of you drink. Drink according to your thirst. Drink that I may be in you and you in me.

In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

VU #92 (verse 3)

**Broken bread, sustaining us in sorrow,  
wine poured out to toast our joy;  
exodus and new tomorrow,  
life's full promise to enjoy!  
Gladdening every human story,  
Word made flesh reveals his glory.**

*Jesus,  
When you had nothing else to give  
you gave yourself.  
And as your friends shared and ate,  
they were confused and complicit;  
just like all of us.  
May we give – our lives and confusions;  
our hollowness and our hearts –  
because when we give like this,  
we are like you,  
who became like us. Amen.*

Sighing deeply Jesus said:

'The truth of the matter is this, one of you will betray me....

and standing or seated they sang a psalm together.

**Psalm 42**

VU page 767 (verse 1 and refrain)

**As a deer seeks flowing waters, weary from the chase  
so my soul, O God, is thirsting to behold your face.**

**You command my steadfast love,  
in you my soul may quiet be;  
you my rock, my help, my refuge,  
set my spirit free.**

The previous nights

Jesus had gone to the place called Gethsemane.

Tonight was no different.

'It's time,' he said and left.

The men went with him.

The women settled children and began to clear the table.

**Anthem** This is My Commandment

James Whitbourn (b. 1963)

This is my commandment  
 that ye love one another as I have loved you.  
 Greater love hath no man  
 that he lay down his life for his friends.  
 (John 13:34 and John 15:13)

Like the children before them  
 the men's drowsy eyes fought their determination to stay awake  
 fought and won...

Your will, O God, be done.'

**Psalm 42**

VU page 767 (verse 2 and refrain)

**Day and night I cry, my heart is breaking, tears my only food;  
 while my enemies jeer and taunt me, saying:  
 "Where is now your God?"**

**You command my steadfast love,  
 in you my soul may quiet be;  
 you my rock, my help, my refuge,  
 set my spirit free.**

Torch lights through the olive trees...

and burdened by the faintest hope.

**Psalm 42**

VU page 767 (verse 3 and refrain)

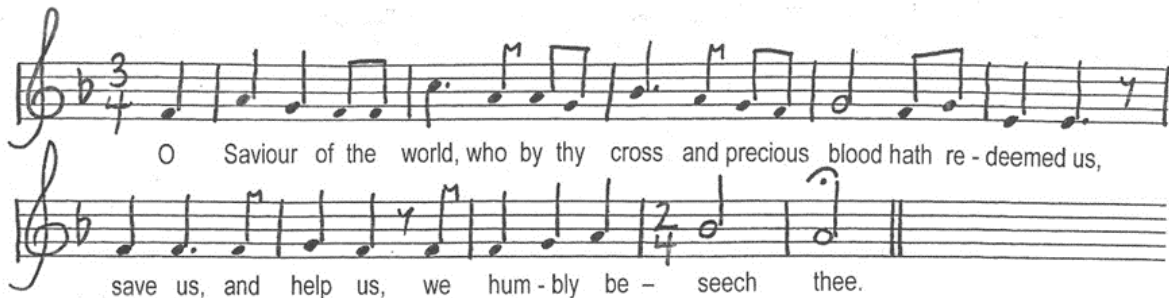
**Why am I so sad, so troubled, why must suffering be so long?  
 I will hope in you, my God and Saviour,  
 praise you with a song!**

**You command my steadfast love,  
 in you my soul may quiet be;  
 you my rock, my help, my refuge,  
 set my spirit free.**

## Stripping of the Chancel

Jesus prayed: 'The truth of the matter is this, I'm scared and I'm alone.'

### Salvator Mundi (sung by all)



O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath re - deemed us,  
save us, and help us, we hum - bly be - seech thee.

Jesus prayed: 'Betrayal is at hand, and these who have made promises, beyond their power to keep will scatter.'

### Salvator Mundi (sung by all) – The Pulpit Antependium is removed as we sing

**O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross  
and precious blood hath redeemed us,  
save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

Jesus prayed: 'Keep them safe; let none be lost.'

### Salvator Mundi (sung by all) – The Cross is veiled, and the Bible closed as we sing

**O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross  
and precious blood hath redeemed us,  
save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

Jesus prayed: 'Your will, O God, be done.'

There was once someone who said such wonderful things and did such amazing things that people began to follow him. But, they didn't know who he was.

Finally, they just had to ask, and when they asked, he said: "I am the light."

"If you're the light, then who are we?" they asked. "You are the light."

***Tonight, our light falters and fails.  
Fails our world, fails our selves,  
fails the light who stands alone,  
shining out into the night.***

**Salvator Mundi** (sung by all) – The candles are extinguished as we sing

**O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross  
and precious blood hath redeemed us,  
save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

You are welcome to spend a few minutes in silence. When ready, please take that silence with you.

There are envelopes and offering plates at the front and back of the sanctuary for those wishing to make a donation. Thank you.

We invite you to Fairlawn Avenue United Church for our Holy Week services, to pause, to breathe, and to simply be. Together, we will walk the story at the heart of our faith: from the warmth of welcome, through moments of quiet reflection, and onward to the promise of new life.

Friday, April 3	10:30am	Good Friday Service
Sunday, April 5	9:00am	Easter Breakfast \$6/person
Sunday, April 5	10:30am	Easter Sunday Communion Service

**Minister** – Rev. Jean Ward  
jean@fairlawnavenueunited.ca

**Minister** – Rev. Nigel Weaver  
nigel@fairlawnavenueunited.ca

**Director of Music** – Eleanor Daley  
eleanor@fairlawnavenueunited.ca

**Administrator** – Joanne Christie  
joanne@fairlawnavenueunited.ca

**Admin. Worship Support** – Xin Li  
xinli@fairlawnavenueunited.ca

**Bookkeeper** – Heather de la Rua  
heather@fairlawnavenueunited.ca



**Fairlawn Avenue  
United Church**  
28 Fairlawn Avenue  
Toronto, ON M5M 1S7  
T: 416-481-6848



[www.fairlawnchurch.ca](http://www.fairlawnchurch.ca)

[churchoffice@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:churchoffice@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)