



The United Church of Canada **Boiestown & St Thomas**

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March 22nd, 2026

5th Sunday of Lent

Today's Theme

Lazarus is raised to life after his death, but is the pattern we wait for or a metaphor? The lens we take can shift our interpretation. How does this passage help us to be a better follower of Christ?

* Indicates stand as you are able.

The congregation shall read the **bold-faced print**.

Gathering

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

**Introit:* VU 412 This is the Day, verse 1

**Call to Worship:*

One: Along the Lenten way, may our loving God

All: give us calm reflection.

One: Along the Lenten way, may our loving God

All: give us faithful friends.

One: Along the Lenten way, may our loving God

All: give us purpose and direction.

One: Along the Lenten way, may our loving God

All: bring us to Jesus Christ and his cross-bound way.

One: Along the Lenten way, we worship God.

[Written by: David Sparks. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

**Hymn:* VU 395 Part of the Family

Opening Prayer:

Loving God, you've called us and we've come. We know our need to be in this place and we give you thanks that we are here. We want to learn more about your love for us. We want to feel the strength of those who have gone before us and whose presence surrounds us now. We want to notice your presence in the quiet places of our hearts. We want to live with joy and in service to others and to your creation. We want a lot of things, O God. But, deep down, we know that you want what is best for us. So, most of all in this time, we want to be with you and to feel your love. Hold us, bless us, touch us, so that, when our worship is over, we may go out to be a blessing to everyone we meet. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

[Written by: Bob Root. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

Announcements and Celebrations

Creed: VU 918 A New Creed

Word

Time with the Young at Heart

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:6–11

Reader: This is the word of the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1–45

Reader: This is the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to Christ, the Word.

Meditation: In Life, In Death

**Hymn:* VU 581 When We Are Living

Thanksgiving

Minute for Mission

Offertory VU 542 We Give You But Your Own

Dedication

Prayers of The People & The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn: MV 138 Outside the Lines

Sending Forth

**Commissioning and Benediction:*

One: We go from here as a people so loved by God and assured that God will not and cannot forget us.

All: God's love gives us hope and strength for our journey.

One: We go as a people challenged by words of hope and joy.

All: God's love gives us the joy we need for our journey.

One: Let us go forth, singing of God's never-ending joyful, loving presence.

[Written by: Beth W Johnston. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

Blessing: VU 120 O Jesus I Have Promised, verse 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A warm welcome to those who are worshipping with us today.

March 29, 2026 – 11:00a.m. – Doaktown.

March 29, 2026 – 6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. – St. Thomas is hosting a Variety Show in support of Self-Help and a new roof for St. Thomas. Free will offering at the door.

April 2, 2026 – Official Board Meeting – St. Thomas – 7:00p.m.