



The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville!

Sunday May 3, 2026



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast, are on the traditional territories of Indigenous people.

Minister: Rev. Diane Knowles
Member Care Coordinator: Judy White
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Welcome to Trinity

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville

Sunday May 3, 2026 - 10:00 am

“Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands”

*“Faith isn’t about being strong all the time;
sometimes it’s about being honest in our weakness.”*

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Introit: “Find a Home Here”

All: **Find a home here, live out faith here,
gather strength here, find family here.
Be yourself here, feel secure here,
celebrate here, be at home here.** (repeat)

Greeting

One: Jesus said, “I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly!”

All: **In our daily lives may this be so.**

Welcome to Trinity United Church –

the heart in the heart of Huntsville!

Welcome in Friendship!

Welcome in faith’s radical love and belonging!

Announcements

Joy and Concerns/Sads and Glads

A Moment of Quiet Reflection

Call to Worship (The Tie that Binds)

One: Creator, we come together in community as one heart and body.

All: **Braid us together. Let us be bound in love to one another.**

One: We recognize in community when one of us struggles, all of us struggle.

All: **Braid us together. Let us be bound in love to one another.**

One: We join together today with a new desire for understanding those in our midst.

All: **Braid us together. Let us be bound in love to one another.**

One: We come to sing a song of hope.

All: **We come to dance a dance of peace.**

One: In this place, no one walks alone. When one stumbles, another reaches out. When one weeps, another sits close by.

All: **Holy One, you call us into community where we may offer belonging and compassion.**

One: We pray this in the Spirit of Christ, who calls us to be good to one another. Amen.

Opening Hymn: “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” (VU 602)

Opening Prayer

All: **God of Love, stir in us deep compassion for people living with brain disorders and their families. Come into each life, each heart, each story, each song so we may live and love with courage and purpose. Raise our awareness of how we can create a supportive and safe spiritual community for people who are feeling isolated, shunned and ashamed.**

We trust your Spirit's work to make us whole, together in sacred rhythms of giving and receiving. Gather us together to be your people in our hurting world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Light Beamer song: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
(VU 664)

Lighting of the Christ candle

One: This flame reminds us that Christ is with us leading us, restoring us and holding us even in our trying times.

Time with our Light Beamers

(Our young people are taught the values and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, his love and his compassion for all God's people. In turn, they learn how to shine their love with others at home, at school and at play.)

Congregational Blessing

Light Beamers: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you.**

Anthem: "My Song of Praise"

GOD'S WORD FOR AN EASTER PEOPLE

Our Scripture Reader today is Sheila Petch.

Prayer of Illumination

One: Holy One, as we hear your word, open our minds and especially our hearts. May the words land exactly where they need to land. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12

(Two are better than one... if one falls, the other will lift up their companion.)

New Testament Reading: Mark 2: 1-12

(The friends carry the sick man to Jesus and lower him down through the roof. Healing begins with community effort.)

Reader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet.

All: **And a light to our path.**

The Minister's Message: "We Carry This Together"

Brief Musical Reflection

Offering Invitation

One: Today we are reminded we are not meant to carry life alone. In our giving, we share what we have so that others may be supported and cared for. Each gift is a quiet way of saying you are not alone. Let us give as part of the work of carrying one another.

Offering Hymn: (tune of Edelweiss)

All: **God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.
May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever.
Give us the courage to stand for truth,
help us care for others.
God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.**

Offering Prayer

All: **Spirit of life and healing, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. Use them and use us to bring comfort, support and hope to others. May our gifts help lighten the burdens around us. Remind us again that we are part of something greater, a community held together in your grace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

Prayers of the Community

The Lord's Prayer

All: **Our Father,
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

Commissioning

One: Go now in peace to love, to serve, and to carry one another today and every day.

Benediction

One: Go now into the world,
with hearts made tender by compassion
and minds open by understanding.
May you be a light to those in darkness.
A friend to the lonely.
A voice of kindness in a noisy world.
And may the peace of Christ,
the love of God,
and the healing breath of the Holy Spirit
go with you today and always.

Sung Blessing: "May the God of Hope Go with Us" (VU 424)

All: **May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every hand and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

Musical Postlude: "Lean on Me" (Bill Withers)

(This song emphasizes the importance of mutual support and the courage to offer help. The lyrics encourage us to share their burdens and rely on others. Key lines include:

"Sometimes in our lives we all have pain; we all have sorrow."

"I'll help you carry on if you just call me."

In this song we begin to glimpse the love of Christ among us.)

Following the Postlude, let us take three minutes to turn and greet one another with signs of Christ's peace and blessing as we move into a brand-new week.



Join us here in the Sanctuary for Coffee Hour and fellowship following the service, with thanks to our hosts Lynne Doyle and Jim Schiedel.





Thought for the week!

*“God doesn’t want for us to be always strong,
God meets us in our weariness.”*

“Come to me all you who are weary.”

Matthew 11: 28-30

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

The Outreach Team thanks you for helping to collect food for the Corner Lighthouse Food Bank. **May is Jam and Ketchup!**

FundScrip orders are due today!

Order the amount you need for your month’s groceries, gas and gifts and in doing so, Trinity benefits!



Thank you for your support of this fund raiser!

Final Day for “Hike for Hospice” Donations! Today we are hiking to raise funds for Algonquin Grace Hospice in Huntsville at the Limberlost Forest and Wildlife Reserve. Thank you to everyone at Trinity who have already donated - you have already made a difference! If you wish to donate online, please email Linda at the following email address. She will forward you the link.

drivingrange@cogeco.ca.

Thanks for support again this year! Linda Martin



The Men of Trinity - Wednesday May 6 at 9:00 am in the Arnold Room.

The **Knitting Circle** - Wednesday May 6 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Arnold Room.

Questions, call Joan on 705-788-5838.



Mug Up with the Minister! – Join us this coming Thursday May 7 in the Arnold Room at 10 am and enjoy a cup of coffee with your church family. This is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends, meet new people and explore how our faith connects with our everyday lives. Bring your own mug and we will supply coffee!



Souper Sandwich Lunch and Takeout is Friday May 8 from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm in Trinity Hall. Takeout order deadline is Tuesday May 5. Call: 705-789-5679. As you know, this is Nancy’s last Souper Sandwich, so we encourage everyone to come on out, eat lunch and celebrate Nancy! Hope to see you there!



The Huntsville Community Choir is presenting a beautifully curated Spring Program for your enjoyment.

Louis Tusz has selected songs from every corner of the Spring season to delight you.

Come and enjoy the joyful sounds of spring!

Concerts are on Friday May 8 at 7:30 pm and Saturday May 9 at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Tickets are available at the door and online:

huntsvillecommunitychoir.com.



We have a pew for you!

Are you feeling called to make Trinity United Church your new spiritual home? Are you searching for community and renewed purpose and meaning?

On Sunday, May 31 we will celebrate a special **Welcoming Ceremony** during worship. This is a meaningful opportunity to be formally recognized as part of our spirit-filled and growing Trinity community.

If you would like to take part, please speak with Rev. Diane or Suzy in the coming weeks.

**Come to Christ! Come to Community!
Come to care and to make a difference!**

We would be honoured to welcome you as you make a commitment to serve and follow The Way of Jesus and his teachings of compassion, hope, and forgiveness.

Be here! Be you! Belong! Rev. D



Camp Big Canoe Supplies Needed!

Camp Big Canoe has indicated that it needs the following supplies for the summer craft programme. Donations may be brought to the office for the attention of Nancy Waxl from Monday April 27 to Thursday May 28. Thank you for your support!

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| Acrylic Paint | Buttons |
| Clothes Pins | Fabric/wood markers |
| Face Paint | Felt |
| Glue Sticks (small or large) | Googly Eyes |
| Keychain Clips | Letter Beads |
| Liquid Glue | Little Glass Jars |
| Melting Beads Boards | Melting Bead Painter's Tape |
| Parchment Paper | Pill Bottles |
| Pompoms | Pony Beads |
| Popsicle Sticks | Rolls of Paper |
| Sponge Brushes | Stickers |
| Straws | String |
| Toilet Paper Rolls | Wood |
| Circles | |



Five Simple Things You Can Do to make the world a better place for people with mental health challenges and their families.

1. **Be a Friend.** Provide companionship and compassion on the road toward recovery. Offer a ride to church or to a local support group. Listen without judgement. Pray for those you know with mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and for their family members.
2. **Share your story.** Has mental illness impacted you or your family in some way? Your story may empower others to seek treatment or have hope.
3. **Watch your language.** Pay attention to the words you use and avoid stigmatizing labels. Do not refer to people as "crazy", "psycho", "lunatic" or "mental."
4. **Be a "StigmaBuster."** Challenge negative attitudes toward mental illness among your friends and acquaintances and in the media.
5. **Learn the facts.** Educate yourself about the various mental health challenges, substance use disorders, neurodevelopmental differences, and other brain disorders. Check out the resources the UCC Mental Health Network (www.mhn-ucc.org), take a Mental Health First Aid class and host one at your congregation for the larger community. Offer a class or go to a support group with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (www.nami.org) and check out the facts at the National Institute of Mental Health (www.nimh.nih.gov), the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (www.samhsa.gov), the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org). Visit the Mental Health Commission of Canada for education, supports and programs related to mental wellness <http://mentalhealthcommission.ca/>