

# **GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

\*please stand as you are able

## **PRELUDE:**

**\*INTROIT # 109 vs. 2: Now Quit Your Care**

## **\*WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.  
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

## **REFLECTIVE MUSIC MV # 21: Open Our Hearts**

Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts.

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Come, faithful people, and find that quiet centre  
where God may enter in.

**We gather as God's people:  
hungry for Holy presence,  
ready for God's Word to us.**  
Let us worship God.

## **\*PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**God of Sarah and Abraham, God of us all:  
you have called people throughout the ages  
to journey in faithfulness.**

**Give to us a sense of anticipation through this Lenten season,  
that we may move**

**with confidence and hope  
toward the new life of Easter.**

**We pray in Jesus' name,  
our Companion and Guide. Amen.**

## **\*HYMN # 229: God of the Sparrow**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**God, you have called us to be pilgrims.  
Forgive us when we weary of the journey  
and seek security**

rather than the open road.  
Forgive us when we feel  
the risk of the journey is too great.  
Grant us pilgrim spirits in this Lenten season  
and lead us to the new life of Easter. Amen.

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

On mountaintops and in valleys, in our homes and in our hearts,  
God knows us better than we know ourselves,  
and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves.  
By God's mercy, we are forgiven;  
by God's mercy, we are made whole;  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

**\*HYMN # 121: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery**

### **OFFERING INVITATION**

### **OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY**

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN: # 641 vs. 2**

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey,  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

### **GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

Holy God,  
You speak to us in many ways,  
through rushing wind or still small voice,  
in Scripture's Word and through your Grace.  
Help us hear your voice above the clamour of this world,  
recognize the difference and follow only you. Amen

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Genesis 17:1 – 7, 15 – 16**

**The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSIVE PSALM 22 Parts 3 & 4 page 746**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Mark 8:31 - 38**

**The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM: Salve Maria**

**Faith Story:** Frances McNiven

**\*HYMN # 238: O Lord My God**

## **GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**SUNG RESPONSE #400: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send power, send us grace.

**\*HYMN # 633: Bless Now, O God, the Journey**

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE**

Holy God, Dreamer of dreams,

We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.

## **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

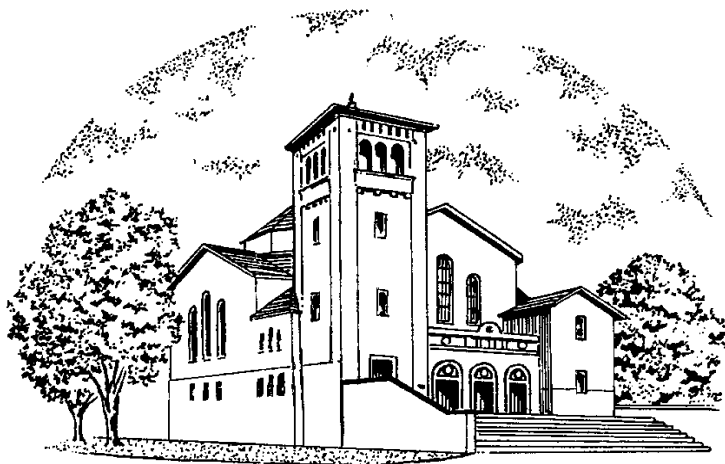
**SUNG BENEDICTION MV # 209: Go Make a Difference**

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.  
Go make a difference in the world. X2

**POSTLUDE**

# Cochrane Street United Church

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## February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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