

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

PRELUDE:

***INTROIT #109 vs. 4: 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:**

Like empty jars, we have come to be filled

Like candles, we have come to be set ablaze.

Like aged wine in a cask, we have come to be poured out.

Like weary travelers, we have come to find rest.

Hear the word of God and make your reply:

My heart has heard you say,

"Come and talk with me, O my people."

And my heart responds,

"God, I am coming."

***PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Most Holy God,

we rejoice in our awareness of your presence.

As you enter our lives,

refresh and renew us;

grant that we may live with love

in the example of Jesus the Christ

and in the power of the Holy Spirit,

through whom we pray. Amen.

***HYMN # 111: As the Sun with Longer Journey**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

You call us to follow

and our footsteps falter,

**reach out your hand
and we treat you as stranger,
whisper our name
and we simply ignore you.
Gracious God,
slow to anger, swift to bless,
forgive us, restore us.
Grant us hearts that stand firm,
a faith that is strong and a hope that endures. 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 grace, we are made whole;
Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

***HYMN # 119: When We are Tempted to Deny Your Son**

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

Numbers 21:4 - 9

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM 107 page 831 parts 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:14 - 21

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

ANTHEM: When You Prayed Beneath the Trees - *By Lloyd Larson*

Faith Story: Judy Kay

***HYMN # 509: I the Lord of Sea and Sky**

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 us power, send us grace!

***HYMN # 116: Giver of the Perfect Gift**

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 # 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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March 11th, 2018

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