

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

PRELUDE:

***INTROIT MV #8: And on This Path**

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide, **x3**
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide, **x3**
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

***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 #14: Where Two or Three Are Gathered

Where two or three are gathered in my name.
I am there, I am there.

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

We are a chosen people; a family people.

Chosen for love and to share love.

Chosen for joy and to spread joy.

Chosen for friendship and for befriending.

Chosen for blessing and to bless.

Chosen for fruitfulness and chosen for harvest.

We are a chosen people, a family people,

Your family, our family.

***PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**O God, as a gentle rain soaks the earth,
may your peace and love fall upon us,
bringing growth and life.**

Soak into our innermost being.

Quiet all that makes us anxious.

Help us to linger in your presence,

and send us out refreshed, to carry your peace to others. Amen.

***HYMN # 703: In The Bulb There Is a Flower**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Come to us, God, like fresh water,
softening the soil of a parched and weary land.
We confess
that hurts and disappointments harden our hearts,
frustration and failures dry us out,
Come to us, God with life-giving power.
Free us from resentment, reluctance and reserve.
Remind us that in your forgiveness we are free.
Forgiven, may we be forgiving,
In Jesus' name we pray. 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 # 614: In Suffering Love**

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN: #537: You Work, O God, Needs Many Hands**

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make.
Be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus sake.

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy Spirit,
Open our hearts to the story of your love.
Open our minds to new ways of knowing you.
Open our doors to whom all you would welcome. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 41:18 - 20

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM 126 page 850

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 2:1 - 12

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: We Are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light, *by Hal Hopson*

SERMON: Mandy Penny and Miriam Bowlby

***HYMN # 278: In the Quiet Curve of Evening**

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (page 910)

***HYMN # 586: We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection**

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 # 657: He Leadeth Me - vs. 1 & chorus

POSTLUDE

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October 28th, 2018

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