

# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

## PRELUDE:

## \*INTROIT:

## \*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:

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

**We come to celebrate God's presence,**  
and God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.

**We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,**  
and the life we are called to live.

**We come as a pilgrim people**  
**searching for ways to live out our faith.**

We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.

**Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!**

## \*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 # 271: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

## 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 MV # 79: Spirit, Open My Heart (*See Insert*)**

### **OFFERING INVITATION**

### **OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY**

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN: #542: We Give You But Your Own**  
We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

### **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**

**Isaiah 35:4 - 7**

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

## **RESPONSIVE PSALM 146 page 868**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Mark 7:24 - 37**

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

**ANTHEM: Bridge Over Troubled Water** by Simon & Garfunkel

**Sermon:**

**\*HYMN # 713: I See A New Heaven**

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

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**\*HYMN # 274: Your Hand, O God, Has Guided**

### **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 # 422: God Be With You**

**God Be with you till we meet again;**

**loving counsels guide uphold you.**

**With a shepherd’s care enfold you.**

**God be with you till we again.**

**Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus’ feet;**

**Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

### **POSTLUDE**

# Cochrane Street United Church

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## September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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