

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 #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:

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
To you our hearts and souls sing for joy, O God.
Happy are those who live in your house, O Lord of hosts.
Happy are those whose strength is in you, O God.
It is better to be a doorkeeper in your house
than to live in the tents of wickedness.
O Lord of hosts, happy are those who trust in you.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

God, you touch our lives
with mystery and hope.
We come to this place today,
ready to see your power working through us.
Help us to be open to your Word,
and to answer your call among us.
In the name of Jesus. Amen.

HYMN # 218: We Praise You O God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God,
Come to us like fresh water,
softening the soil of a parched and weary land.
We confess
that hurts and disappointments harden our hearts,
frustrations 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:

Hear the Good News!
In Jesus we are no longer slaves to fear.
We are dearly loved children of God.
God's Spirit is among us; we shall live!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN # 589: Lord Speak to Me

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

OFFERTORY HYMN MV # 182: Grateful

Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,
Joyful in your spirit flowing overall, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word
Joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Eternal God,
In the reading of scripture, may your Word be heard;
In the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known;
In the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shared.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 33:12 - 23

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99 page 819

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22:15 - 34

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

SERMON:

HYMN MV #79: Spirit Open My Heart

REFRAIN

Spirit open my heart to the joy and pain of living
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit open my heart. God replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.

All my coldness and fear
o your grace I now surrender.

REFRAIN

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory.

REFRAIN

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome another.

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN # 421: Lead on O Cloud of Presence

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 #224: May the God of Peace

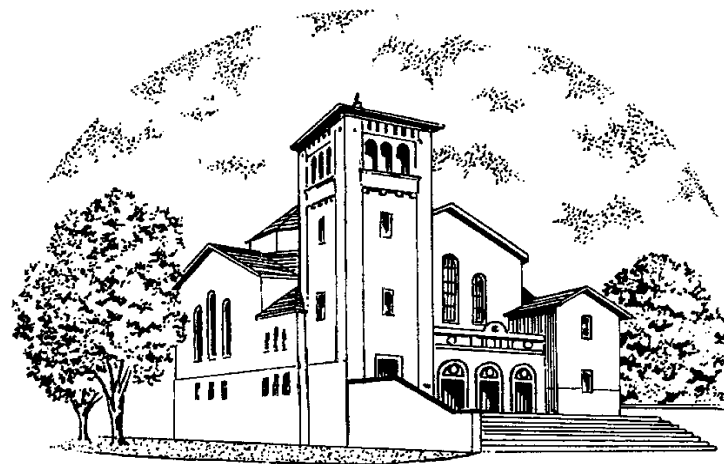
May the God of peace and of all good,
may the God of peace and of all good
be always with you.

Amen! May God peace be with you. Amen!

POSTLUDE

Cochrane Street United Church

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October 22nd, 2017

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