

## **GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

*\*please stand as you are able*

### **PRELUDE:**

#### **\*INTROIT: Spirit God, Be Our Breath V.1**

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.

Blow through us, bring strength to move on.

Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...

Spirit God, be our song.

### **ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**REFLECTIVE MUSIC** MV #18 - Lord, Prepare Me To Be a Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true;

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. **2X**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Response:** *"And so...we gather here in the name of Love"*

### **PRAYER OF APPROACH**

**\*HYMN #603: In Loving Partnership We Come**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Gracious God,

as we check in with our hearts this day,

we notice how easily we are swept into ways

that separate us from one another and from you.

We acknowledge that we let things like ego,

competition, greed, comfort, differences, and fear

hold us back from opening to love and action.

Holding onto bitterness, cynicism, and judgement,

we become numb to our own pain

and to the suffering around us.

Hear us, O God, as we silently name to you,

**those things that are gripping, clinging,  
weighing heavy in our hearts and minds.  
Help us open to living generously.**  
*(moment of silence)*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

**\*HYMN MV #79: Spirit Open My Heart (SEE INSERT)**

## **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 over all, O God of Love.  
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,  
joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

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

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

**Holy One, Holy All,  
Bring together our hearts and minds  
that we might know and live  
the ways of Wisdom, Love, and justice for our times. Amen**

### **SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:**

Deuteronomy 6:1-5  
Mark 12:28-31

Reader: Carol Joyce  
Reader: Cheryl Briggs

### **MODERN WISDOM**

*"When we allow ourselves to love and be loved, fear changes to courage,  
emptiness becomes plentitude, and distance becomes intimacy."*

*- John O'Donohue*

**SERMON: "School of Love"**

**ANTHEM: Gesu Bambino - P.A. Yon**

**\*HYMN 372: Though I May Speak**

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

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

**\*HYMN 424: May the God of Hope Go with Us**

**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**

**May we respond to the call of our gifts**

**May we find the courage to follow where they lead**

**May we experience each day as a sacred gift**

**And may we be empowered by Love in all that we do.**

**Let us go forth in the name of the One who founded the "School of Love!"**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION: Spirit God, Be Our Breath V.4**

**Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.**

**Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.**

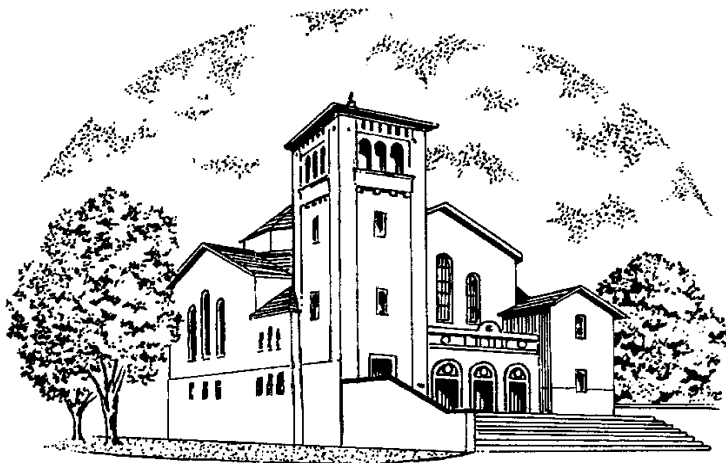
**Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn...**

**Spirit God, be our song.**

**POSTLUDE**

# Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street ♦ St. John's, NL ♦ A1C 3L7



## January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Minister: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, B.A. (Hons) M.Div

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

Minister of Music: Patricia Young

Director of Music: Evan Smith

(t) 709-722-3023      (f) 709-722-3260

[info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)

[www.cochranestreetuc.com](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com)