

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

PRELUDE:

***INTROIT:** VU 442 Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters (verse 3)

***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 #82: A Light Is Gleaming

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,
living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

All creation proclaims the greatness and love of God.

God's love permeates even the deepest darkness.

The light of God shines on us with new hope.

We are called to be people of compassion and justice.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to see your light and live in your hope.

Prepare us for service to all your people and to this world.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Generous God, for all that sustains us;

air to breathe, warmth and light,

food to eat, water to drink,

we offer our thanks and praise.

For spiritual gifts that bind us together;

one people, one body

empowered for service

we offer our hands and voices.

For the Good News of the Gospel;

healing and wholeness

freedom and justice

we offer our hearts in service. Amen

***HYMN # 101: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Creator of the universe,
we stand amazed at your power and glory.
We are eager to worship you and offer our praise,
but we are often reluctant to answer
when we hear you calling our name.
We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary,
but shy away from the river,
lest we be baptized
with the fire of the Holy Spirit.
Forgive us when we forget your promise
to be with us always, O God.
Renew us with the power of your ever-present love,
and strengthen us to proclaim your justice
throughout the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

In Christ, God says to us, "Arise, shine, for your light is come."
In Christ, God says to us, "Love one another as I have loved you."
Thanks be to God for love and hope!

CHILDREN'S TIME

***HYMN # 100: When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized**

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN MV # 191: What Can I Do?**

What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love.
I'll do my share.

***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 shown.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1 - 5

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29, Page 756

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:4 - 11

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: Let Your Light Shine (Mary MacDonald)

SERMON:

***HYMN MV # 161: I Have Called You By Name**

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD’S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

***HYMN # 87: I Am the Light of the World**

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 # 961:

Let Us, O God, depart in peace,

who in your name are gathered here.

Disclose the brightness of your face, and be forever near.

POSTLUDE

Cochrane Street United Church

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January 14th, 2018

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