

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 #82: A Light Is Gleaming vs 1 & 4

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

A star shining brightly in the East,
**discovered by those who have eyes to see
the unusual and the challenging.**

A journey into unknown territory,
taken by those who have courage and curiosity.

An encounter with an evil presence,
evil faced, yet resisted with care.

The Holy One recognized, in spite of humble origin,
the glory and the gifts given, to God's Chosen Child.

Let us worship God!

*PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Radiant God, light for all people and all places,
by the guidance of a star you led the Magi
to worship the Christ Child.

By the light of faith
lead us to worship you in peace and love,
and guide us in your way.

We pray in the name of Christ,
light of the world. Amen.

*HYMN # 92: In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Light has come into the world

but we love the night.
Love has come into the world
but we continue to hate.
Grace has come into the world
but we cannot forgive.
Hope has come into the world
but we are surrounded by despair.
New life has come into the world
but we are tired.
Peace has come into the world
but conflict continues.
Joy has come into the world
but we are sad.
Judge us, O God, by your gracious love.
Forgive us, O God, and set us free. 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 # 81: As with Gladness Men of Old**

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:

Gracious God,
we do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from your mouth.
Make us hungry for this heavenly food,

that it may nourish us today
in ways of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING **Isaiah 60:1 - 6**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

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SCRIPTURE READING **Mathew 2:1 - 12**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM:

SERMON:

***HYMN # 96: Will You Come and See the Light**

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD’S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

***HYMN: We Three Kings (see insert)**

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.

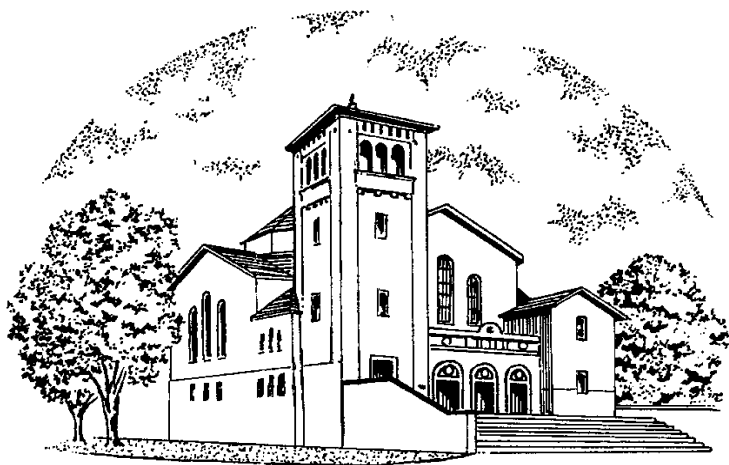
COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE

Cochrane Street United Church

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



January 7th, 2018

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