

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music to Enliven

Gathering song

♪ ♪ **Walk in the Light the beautiful light
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright
Shine all around us by day and by night
Love is the light of the world.**

Welcome ~ Karen Halliday

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are occupying unceded land of the Strait Salish, lək'wəŋən speaking people who have been sustained in body, mind and spirit through their relationship with this land for thousands of years.

I am grateful to be part of a congregation that is hearing the call to continue learning of our colonial history and the on-going impacts of our privilege, and taking up the challenging and healing work toward reconciliation.

Lighting the Christ Candle ~ Peggy Hodding

Leader:

This is such a small light –

Cantor:

This small light; Not like sun or moon.

A tiny, fragile glowing; Flickering in this room

Leader: Can a simple candle remind us of the One, who promises to be present as we gather in his name?

Can this wavering source of light spark a flame inside these people here?

Congregation, Sung:

♪ ♪ **Kindling joy and peace and love within for all who draw near. Kindling joy and peace and love all draw near.**

Opening Prayer

For your Spirit woven into the fabric of creation for the eternal overlapping with time and the life of earth interlaced with heaven's vitality I give you thanks, O God. For your untamed creativity, your boundless mystery and your passionate yearnings planted deep in the soul of every human being I give you thanks. Grant me the grace to reclaim these depths to uncover this treasure, to liberate these longings and in being set free in my own spirit to act for the well-being of the world. ~ Celtic Benediction by J. Philip Newell

♪ ♪ **Opening Song: Get Together** (*see insert*)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

♪ ♪ **Open our hearts, open our minds
Open our lives to you O loving God,
Open our hearts.** ~ MV21~

Scripture: Isaiah 42: 5-9 Reader ~ Elvira Sentes

Reflection: "Making Our Way Together" ~ read by Sarah Hovey excerpt from "The Amen Effect" by Sharon Brous)

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

♪ ♪ Hymn VU 595 We Are Pilgrims

Prayers of the People ~ Mark Ziegler
Responsive Lord's Prayer

Offering Ourselves with our Gifts

♪ ♪ 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. ~MV 182~

GOING OUT TO SERVE

♪ ♪ This Little Light of Mine (see insert)

Commissioning and Blessing

Sung Response

♪ ♪ Hymn VU 646 Siyahamba

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James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

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“JULY LIGHT”

Making Our Way Together

“I have learned that human beings are, fundamentally, deeply relational beings with an innate yearning to be known. To be seen, imperfect and striving. To find our way through the forest, together.” ~ Rabbi Sharon Brous ~

