

Music: Jennifer Turner

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Gathering Song

~ VU 371 ~

♪ ♪ Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Welcome: Rev. Greg Powell

Territorial Acknowledgement

The land on which we gather has sustained the Lək̓wəŋən peoples since time immemorial. This same land now has a title that reads, “James Bay United Church,” which complicates efforts of reconciliation.

We believe God yearns for all to recognize each other as one, as related. May we be so courageous as to take those complicated but necessary steps toward unity and right relationship.

Lighting the Christ Candle: André Fontaine

♪ ♪ We are walking a path of hope x 3

Lead us home. Lead us home

~ MV 221 ~

Opening Prayer

Holy mystery, we gather in your presence and in your name, hoping to have our own cups filled and hoping to reflect the light of Christ. We acknowledge that following a path of peace isn't easy, and so here we are to continue our journeys. Hear our affirmation that your way – a way of truth, justice, and peace – is worthy of our praise. Amen.

Hymn: MV 28 God of the Bible

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

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

~ MV 21 ~

Scripture Reading Luke 6:17-26

Read by Karen Halliday

Reflection

Hymn MV 106 I Am the Dream

Prayers of of the People

♪ ♪ **Amen, amen, it shall be so! Amen, alleluia!**

Lord's Prayer:

**O most Compassionate Life-giver,
may we honor and praise you;
May we work with you to establish your new order of
justice peace and love;
Give us what we need for growth, and help us,
through forgiving others, to accept forgiveness.
Strengthen us in the time of testing, that we may
resist all evil, for all tenderness, strength and love
are yours, now and forever. Amen.** *Bill Wallace,
Aotearoa/New Zealand*

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Offering Ourselves with our Gifts

Offertory Response ~ MV 151 ~

♪ ♪ Your will be done, be done on earth (x 2)
Your will be done, be done on earth.
Your will be done on earth (x 2)

Announcements: Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn: MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts

Commissioning and Blessing

Response ~ MV 145 ~

♪ ♪ *(Refrain)* Draw the Circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

Refrain

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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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Photo by: Carol Garceau