



## **A Thought Provoking Conversation**

*Send them away – Insiders & Outsiders*

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# THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

## Approach to God

Before the service, meditate and speak to God, during the service let God speak to you. After the service talk to each other and the wider community about God.

Words printed in **bold** are spoken or sung by everyone. **At places marked †, you are invited to stand, as you are able.**

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Welcome & Notices

#### **Preparation for Worship: Take time to be holy VU #672**

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;  
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.  
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,  
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, let Him be your Guide;  
And run not before Him, whatever betide.  
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,  
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,  
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.  
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,  
You soon shalt be fitted for service above.

### **Candle Lighting Ceremony**

*Welcoming God, accept this burning candle as a sign of our faith and love for you. Like this candle, we are ready to be your light of love, compassion and acceptance in our world. Amen.*

### **Joys & Concerns**

#### **Call to Worship<sup>†</sup>**

One: There is dew on the ground: God's blessing of life evermore.

**People: There is a presence in the air: God's presence in joyful melody.**

One: Look! Behold how good and pleasant it is when God's people are together!

**People: it is like precious oil touching our skin – reminding us that we are God’s own.**

One: Look! Behold how good and pleasant it is when we are together in worship!

**People: It is more precious than any gold – more perfect than any achievement.**

One: Come people of God. Let us worship in thanksgiving and praise.

**ALL: And let us feel the anointing of God like the oil of forgiveness and the balm of healing. Come let us worship.**

**Opening Hymn: There is a balm in Gilead VU #612<sup>†</sup>**

### **Refrain**

There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. (*Refrain*)

If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus,  
and say, “ He died for all.” (*Refrain*)

### **Opening Prayer**

Loving Creator,

We gather to take in your mercy.

May what comes out of our lives be filled with your grace.

As we take in the beauty of music, the wisdom of words,  
the nourishment of silence, and the strength of fellowship,

may the thoughts and actions that emerge from our lives  
be inspired by your creativity and grounded in your truth.

Help us to recognize ourselves as part of your creation,  
and to affirm that you do not hold us away in anger  
and judgement but draw us near in forgiveness and joy.

As we approach you in worship today, recognize us as your beloved family.

Help us to feel the embrace of your rejoicing heart upon our return to you today.

And assure us of your unending forgiveness and love, we pray. **Amen.**

## **Preparation for Prayer: Lord, listen to your children praying VU #400**

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

### **Prayer of Confession**

Eternal forgiveness,  
We have held so tightly to our resentment and bitterness  
that we are not even aware of the ways they have imprisoned our own spirit.  
We are a people often bound by our self-righteousness.  
We are a people many times restricted by our standards of right and wrong.

We are a people who have not yet learned  
how to love with truly generous hearts.  
And thus, we are limited and retrained;  
held back and misguided; confined and constrained.

Help us to loosen these bonds.  
Show us the ways of forgiveness  
that leads us to free others from our anger,  
and to free ourselves in renewed wholeness.

Remind us again of the deep communion with each other  
in joyful abandonment of our hold on brokenness and failures.  
Show us the ways of subversive forgiveness, which allows us new life  
and creates the path for healing.  
Forgive us, we pray, and show us how to forgive. **Amen**

### **Assurance**

One: God knows the freedom of forgiveness.  
God does not hold on to anger and resentment  
But rejoices in the instant we join in  
the freedom of letting go and beginning again.  
In this, let us be assured of pardon.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen**

### **Ministry of the Word**

- Special Selection
- Stories & Themes for All Ages

### **Scripture Readings**

- First Reading: Matthew 15: (vss. 10-20) or {vss. 21-28}

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church today!*  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **A Thought-Provoking Conversation with Rev. Franklyn James**

### **Hymn: I have called you by your name MV #161 †**

I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.  
I will not abandon you;  
all my promises are true.  
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;  
read it written in my people, help them grow.  
Pour the water in my name,  
speak the word your soul can claim,  
offer Jesus' body, given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;  
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.  
Like the woman reaching out,  
choosing faith in spite of doubt,  
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;  
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.  
With my wonder in your soul,  
make my wounded children whole;  
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

### **Preparation for prayers of the people: Lord, listen to your ... VU #400**

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

### **Prayers of the People**

One: Gracious God, unbind us. Show us how to be released from all that keeps us tethered to our anger and resentments. Help us participate in the grace you give us so freely every day.

**People: When our relationships are broken, help us choose unity over our need to be right.**

**When our work is more burden than a joy, help us embrace it as an opportunity to learn.**

**When we feel abandoned and alone, show us the path to experiencing your profound and perpetual presence with us always.**

One: when our bodies are frail and sources of pain, help us listen deeply to them, and tend carefully to them, with thanksgiving for the miracles that they are.

**People: When our spirits are diminished, help us to reach out to others for renewal and support.**

**When our world seems too fractured and broken, help us to seek to be part of the healing it needs.**

**When we are overwhelmed by the challenges of the day, help us slow down, breathe deeply, and take your loving hand.**

One: Guide us we pray. Heal us we pray. Anoint us, we pray.

Help us return to the possibility of rejoicing in how good and pleasant it is to be your people. **Amen**

### **Thank You and Commission & Benediction †**

People of God – look around. These/those are your brothers and sisters.

Nothing divides us but our limitations.

Freed from the burdens of fear, anger, resentment, and pain –

Let us go into the world made new,

celebrating our release from the prisons that have bound us.

Let us be free. **Amen**

### **Passing the Peace †**

### **Closing Hymn: Will you come and follow me VU #567 †**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,

through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.



**Thank you for participating in today's worship, I pray you have been greatly blessed.**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **On Piano**

Lindsay Lundquist

##### **Singers**

Leona Harrison

Louise Burton

Matthew 15:21-28

<http://my.bible.com/videos/3168-matthew15-21-39-from-lumoproject-dot-com>

##### **Cover Photo**

By Dan Meyers on Unsplash

##### **Videographer & Editor**

Franklyn James

Remember to support and encourage each other and those who have any mobility or other human differences; call to buoy up their spirits and offer assistance if needed, pray for and with them and entrust them to the care of the divine.

Due to physical distancing protocols caused by the Corona Virus, COVID 19, all church activities at Zion United Church that are suspended until further notice.

St. Andrew's United Church in Enderby will be open for worship as of Sunday, August 16, 2020, 9:30 AM. If you are planning a visit kindly let us know beforehand.

##### **Gifts & Offerings**

You may also send us your gifts & offerings using the information below:

- Zion United Church @ to [zionunitedarmstrongbc@gmail.com](mailto:zionunitedarmstrongbc@gmail.com)
- St. Andrew's United Church @ [standrewsunitedenderbybc@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsunitedenderbybc@gmail.com)
- Mission & Service Link: <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/get-involved/giving-opportunities>

Those of you who are on PAR and those who mailed in the gifts and offerings thank you.

We are always happy to hear your comments and queries. If you have a prayer request you may use our social media message tabs or email them to [ministerfranklyn@gmail.com](mailto:ministerfranklyn@gmail.com)

## **Music & Resource**

Take Time to Be Holy - Voices United #672

Words: William D. Longstaff.

Music: George C. Stebbins.

Public Domain.

There Is a Balm in Gilead - Voices United #612

Words, Music: African-American spiritual.

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Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying - Voices United #400

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Deep In Our Hearts -More Voices #154

Words: John Oldham, 1995

Music: Ron Klusmeier, 1996

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Will You Come and Follow Me Voices United #567  
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Call to Worship & Prayers – Seasons of the Spirit™ SeasonsFUSION Lent Easter 2020  
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