



Hope Amidst Disconnect & Tyranny

Exodus 1:8 - 2:10

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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.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome & Notices

Preparation for Worship: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary MV #18

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary, for You. (*repeat 1*)

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 †

One: Hidden in the quiet of our morning there is a blessing for us today.

People: Sheltered amidst the reeds of a busy world there is new life awaiting our care and attention.

One: Floating above the current of trials and tribulation, a peaceful possibility approaches.

People: Swaddle in love and compassion of God's grace, a new beginning is preserved.

One: People of God, the embracing and affirming arms of God are reaching towards us with joy.

People: For we are God's children, holy and beloved.

One: Come, let us welcome God's embrace as we begin a new journey.

ALL: Let us worship with the confidence of God's abiding presence and rescuing love.

Opening Hymn: Seek ye first the Kingdom VU #356 †

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, Hallelujah.

Opening Prayer

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 (*Responsively - one group with me, the other with Lindsay*)

**Group 1: Creator of all,
like the Egyptians who had power, yet feared those who were oppressed by it,
we confess that there are times when we do not recognize the power and
privilege you have given us.**

*Group 2: Loving parent,
there have been times when our people have been ruthless and oppressive in our
treatment of other peoples, based on race, culture, class or background.*

Group 1: We confess that we have not always been creative in seeing a way out of what seems like “no way.”

Group 2: We confess that we have not always been willing to risk going against the powers of our world to enable life to thrive.

Group 1: we confess that there have been times when we have imagined ourselves to be small without agency.

Group 2: And we confess that we have allowed the sins of others to define the world in which we live

ALL: forgive us and remind us of the ways of those who respond with hope, creativity and cunning, rather than despair and listless resolution when the world seems constructed with malice. Show us the hidden blessing floating through the rivers of fatigue and despair. Embolden us to resist the oppression that may be commanded or expected. Forgive us our sins, we pray. Amen

Assurance

One: May we always remember: God is midwives of our lives.
God does not abandon us, even when we abandon each other.
God is our sister, God is our brother and rescuer.
God is with us, forgiving us, embracing, loving, renewing.
In this, let us be assured.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen

Ministry of the Word

- Special Selection
- Stories & Themes for All Ages optional)

Scripture Readings

- First Testament: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church today!

All: Thanks be to God.

A Conversation with Rev. Franklyn James

Hymn: Don't be afraid MV #90 †

Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger
and I have promised,
promised to be always near. *(repeat 1)*

Minute 4 Mission

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: O God, there are ways in which we have felt pressed down and hopeless, threatened by the realities of our times, COVID-19, unstable political situations...

People: protecting God, be with us as we drift amid the waters of injustice, struggle and pain.

One: Abiding presence, there are times when our futures seem dim, and the possibilities feel limited.

People: Protecting God, deliver us to new shore.

One: Sustaining Life, there are places in our world in need of your transforming grace.

People: Protecting God, give us the compassion and courage to share our blessings with others.

One: Providing Parent, people are suffering and striving for new life.

ALL: Protecting God, help us reach out with swaddling love as the agent of healing you have created us to be. Bring us new life; bring us to healing shores; bring us courage and compassion, this we pray in the name of Christ. Amen

Thank You and Commission & Benediction †

One: People of God, Go now with courage!
Use your cunning and creativity to forge a way in this world.
Allow compassion to flow, as God's compassion flows over you.
God in peace. Amen

Passing the Peace †

Closing Hymn: I'm gonna live so God can use me VU #575 †

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!



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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Piano
Lindsay Lundquist

Singers
Leona Harrison
Penny Kirk

Scripture Reader
Ed Murdock

Minute 4 Mission
Leona Harrison

Cover Photo
by Allie 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
- St. Andrew's United Church @ standrewsunitendederbybc@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

Music & Resource

Lord, Prepare Me To Be A Sanctuary - More Voices #18
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Don't Be Afraid (N'ayez Pas Peur) – More Voices #90
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Call to Worship & Prayers – Seasons of the Spirit™ SeasonsFUSION Lent Easter 2020
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St. Andrew's United Church

P.O. Box 304
Enderby, BC V0E 1V0
Tel: 250-838-7315
Email: standrewsenderby@hotmail.com
www.standrewsenderby.com

Zion United Church

P.O. Box 370
Armstrong, BC V0E 1B0
Tel: 250-546-9384
Email: Zionchurch@shaw.ca
www.unitedchurcharmstrong.ca