



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Faith and Believing

February 7, 2021

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Leader: Lindsay Lundquist

Minister: Rev. Franklyn James

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

APPROACHED 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.

KEYS

Words printed in **ALL CAPS & bold** are spoken or sung by everyone.

At places marked with the “†,” you are invited to stand, as you are able.

Functionaries

On Piano

- Lindsay Lundquist

Singer(s)

- Kirsten Earl

Reader(s)

- Kirsten Earl

Videographer & Editor

- Franklyn James



Order of Worship

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF TERRITORY AND RECONCILIATION

As we gather today, we recognize that the first peoples lived here for countless generations before we did. We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional lands of the Splots'in First Nation, and we celebrate their faithful stewardship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT

GATHERING SONG

- **Gather Us In(X2) More Voices #7**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We light this candle to reflect the light of Christ, which cannot be contained, but shines in each one of us, no matter where we are.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

All: Serve the Lord with gladness!

One: Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord is God!

All: It is God who made us, and we are God's!

One: Come, let us worship God!

HYMN: Sing Your Joy VU #253

OPENING PRAYER

God of Grace,

We open our hearts, minds and souls to worship you. We come seeking your wisdom. We come seeking your forgiveness. We come seeking your love. Bless us as we meet together, even if it is only on a screen. Bless us as we sing your praise, read your Word and pray. We ask this in your name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

- **On Eagle's Wings (Refrain only) VU #808**

Loving God

If we are truly honest, we will confess that this is hard. It is hard to wear masks, to avoid gatherings, to spend so much time staring at screens. Our patience is wearing thin. We're losing hope, and we're losing our grip on faith. We are caught between wanting to do the right thing, and wanting to be selfish and do what we want. Please help us. Help us to lean on you when we struggle, remind us every day that there is light at the end of the tunnel!

We must also confess, Forgiving God, that sometimes we forget people, or toss them aside, especially the needy ones, the difficult ones, the ones that are hard to spend time with. When we do things like this, it is not about them, but about us. It is about our comfort level, our guilt, or our need to look good. We need your forgiveness. Forgive our selfishness, forgive our mistakes. Forgive us when we mistake what the world values for what you value. Merciful God, help us to be better people, to see more clearly and to care more thoroughly. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Song: On Eagle's Wings (Refrain only) VU #808

AFFIRMATION & ASSURANCE

One: Hear this good news and see the grace of God. I am forgiven. You are forgiven. We are forgiven. We are free to go and live in the light of love.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PREPARATION FOR SCRIPTURE:

- **Open Your Ears... (All of Part 1) VU #272**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

- **Psalm 147 Part 1 VU p. 868-869**
- **Mark 1: 21-31**

Song: Open Your Ears... (Part 2 x2) VU #272

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

All: We listen for the voice of God.

THE REFLECTION

HYMN: We Are Pilgrims on a Journey VU #595

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

At each long pause our, you are invited to offer a prayer of joys, concerns or requested prayers.

Loving God,

Long ago, people brought their friends to Jesus or approached him on behalf of others. So now we bring to you those who need your help.

We pray that you keep the Covid-19 virus from spreading. Help people to stay home and avoid going out needlessly. Remind people to wash their hands properly. Comfort those who have to make the difficult decision to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members. Be with us in this difficult time.

~short silence~

Gracious God, we bring before you those who are in our hearts and minds, all who were named earlier, and all who we name now, out loud or in the silence of our hearts.

~short silence~

God of compassion and love,

We offer you all of our suffering and pain. We pray you give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure. Give us peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces in our lives.

Praise and glory to God, from whom all love flows.

Praise and glory to Jesus, who showed love through suffering.

Praise and glory to the Holy Spirit, who brings light to the darkest places.

Hear us as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples... Amen

SENDING FORTH:

- **May the God of Hope Go with Us VU #424**

THANK YOU & BLESSING

God has bathed us in light, filling us to overflowing with love and healing our pain. May we follow the path that has been lit before us, and let us spread that abundance throughout our world. Go now in light, love and peace.

DOXOLOGY

- **May the Blessing of God Be upon You VU #429**



THANK YOUS & CREDITS

Cover Photo by Tim Mossholder on Unsplash

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

Remember, for those we are unable to connect with any reason; call to buoy up their spirits, and/or pray for them and entrust them to the care of the divine.

Due to physical distancing caused by the Corona Virus, COVID 19, all church activities that require physical contact are suspended until further notice.

GIFTS & OFFERINGS

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

- Zion United Church @ to zionunitedarmstrongbc@gmail.com
- St. Andrew's @ 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 prayer requests, you may use our social media message tabs or email them to ministerfranklyn@gmail.com

Call to Worship & Prayers - Seasons of the Spirit™ SeasonsFUSION
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MUSIC CREDITS

Gather Us In – More Voices #7

Words and music: David Hann, 2005;

French trans. David Fines, 2006

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253 Sing Your Joy Words – Voices United #253

Music: David Haas © 1987 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Words, Music: G.I.A. Publications, Inc

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Psalm 91: On Eagle's Wings - Voices United, p. 808

Refrain Words, Music: Michael Joncas

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administered by Oregon Catholic Press.

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Open Your Ears, O Faithful People – Voices United #272

Words: from The Talmud: "Israel and the Torah are one" © 1968,

1975 Willard F. Jabusch, 5735 S. University Ave., Chicago, IL

60637, USA. Music: Hasidic melody, harmonized by Richard

Proulx. Harmony: © 1985 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

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Psalm 147 – Voices United, p. 869-869

12th-century plainsong Words,

Music: Public Domain.

The Servant Song - Voices United #595

Words, Music, Arrangement: Richard Gillard © 1977

Scripture in Song, Administered by Maranatha!

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May the God of Hope Go with Us – Voices United #424

Words: (v 2) Fred Kaan © 1993

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Music: Argentine folk melody.

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May the Blessing of God Be upon You – Voices United #429

Words: © 1995 R. Gordon Nodwell, 104 Grandview Way, North

York, ON M2N 6V2. Music: © 1995 William H.M. Wright, 165

Robert St., Toronto, ON M5S 2K6.



Zion United Church

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

St. Andrew's United Church

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