



THRD SUNDAY IN EASTER

From Fearful to Bold Witnesses

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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)

- Leona Harrison

Reader(s)

- Dave Evans

Support Personnel

- Ed Murdoch

Videographer & Editor

- Franklyn James



Order of Worship

INTROIT:

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 Splat's'in First Nation, and we celebrate their faithful stewardship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT!

CENTERING HYMN: Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU #374

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God of the morning is with us as we gather with songs of praise.

All: Here we find respite from a busy, frenetic world.

One: We gather in this place finding the peace that God offers.

All: We are more at home within ourselves when we find our rest in Christ.

One: We are witnesses to God's glory, steadfast love, and faithfulness.

All: We see the beauty of creation and sing praises of joy!

One: We abide in God's love and keep God's commandments.

All: Today, we awaken to the call, and show up fully to love one another.

One: Come, let us worship.

OPENING HYMN: All Things Bright and Beautiful VU #291

OPENING PRAYER

God of light and life,

we gather as witnesses to your abundant love.

We are amazed to discover you anew through our prayers,
our praise, and our offerings.

God, you encourage us amidst our daily living to become
stewards of your love and grace.

We ask you to be here with us as we witness your love made
real through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are often busy.

We busy ourselves with quick responses and neat appearance.

We get caught in the flow of hectic pace and too quickly give up opportunities to be still and know you.

God, forgive us when we become so busy, we forget to pray.

Forgive us when we are so enthralled by devices and gadgets that we forget to look up and take notice.

We fail to notice our neighbors.

We fail to notice the needs of others.

*Forgive us when we are so saturated by the news that we shut
down completely,*

*we forget that we are called to be your servants, your witnesses
here and now.*

Wake us up to the work of love at hand.

*Forgive us when we choose apathy over attention, when we
become hyper-vigilant in getting what we want*

*that we forget to attend with care to those we meet and greet
throughout our days.*

We neglect to see the humanity in our fellow companions.

*Forgive us when we falter. **Amen.***

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

One: God knows our hearts.

When we gather and ask for forgiveness, God forgives.

Friends, be at peace; your sins are forgiven.

All: Praise God, in whose fullness we receive grace upon grace.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

- **Psalm 4 VU, p.727**

- **Luke 24:36-48**

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church today!!

People: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION/SERMON

HYMN: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise VU#264

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*God, we give thanks for your steadfast love, abiding presence, and
your creative council and guideposts along the way.*

*You enrich our lives with a world filled with colours, scents,
and tastes that delight our senses.*

*We see the goodness that surrounds us and give you thanks
and praise.*

We are witnesses to the world in which we live, and see injustices and colossal failures.

Sometimes, we close our eyes and wish we could unsee some of what we've witnessed.

Witnessing has its own form of pain, but the true suffering we see is incomprehensible.

We pray for those in daily pain, whose bodies and spirits require great effort.

We pray for those who are hungry for food, encouragement, and relationship.

We pray for those whose spirits are diminished. Restore each of these into your attentive care. What some lack, others have in abundance.

Guide us to know what is ours to keep and what is ours to share.

Help us to loosen our grip on belongings and possessions, and awaken our hearts so we may live with hearts attuned to the rhythms and needs of our community and our world.

We live from this moment.

We love from this moment.

May we live this day as a gift and move into the days ahead with gratitude and generosity. Amen.

Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples then and us now. ***Paraphrased by Sarah Dylan Breuer.***

Loving Creator

we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.

Renew the whole world in the image of your love.

***Give us what we need for today,
and a hunger to see the whole world fed.***

Strengthen us for what lies ahead;

heal us from the hurts of the past;

give us courage to follow your call in this moment.

For your love is the only power,

the only home, the only honor we need,

in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: The Spring Has Come VU #187

THANK YOU & BLESSING

*Go now having laid down your burdens.
Go with a freer spirit standing tall.
Go to proclaim God's message of justice, grace, and love.
Go pointed toward purpose knowing you have a church home
that welcomes you fully and completely.
Go to love deeply and show great care.
Go now in peace and love. Amen.*

DOXOLOGY: Go to the World VU #420



THANK YOU'S & CREDITS

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

Remember, for those we are unable to connect with for 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 Lent - Easter 2021 Copyright © Wood Lake Publishing Inc. 2020

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Sermon Resource: David L. Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor, Editors. "Feasting on the Word: Year B, Volume 2: Lent through Eastertide." Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press. (2008). 26-31

MUSIC CREDITS

Come and Find the Quiet Centre - VU #374

Words: Shirley Erena Murray © 1982

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Music: Attributed to Benjamin Franklin White.

Harmony: reprinted from Lutheran Book of Worship

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All Things Bright and Beautiful – VU #291

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander.

Music: 17th-century English melody.

Music Adaptation and Arrangement: © 1921

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Ps. 4 Psalm 4 – VU, p. 727

Words, Music: Helen L. Wright © 1986

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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise VU #264

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith.

Music: Welsh folk song. Arranged

by John Roberts (Henllan) in Caniadau y Cyssegr.

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The Spring Has Come - VU #187

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Music: Colin Gibson © 1993

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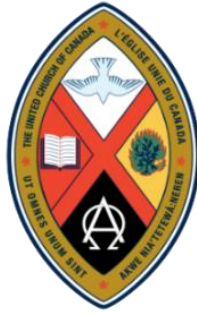
PO Box 3791, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6E3.

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