

# Covenant

*The United Church of Canada*

a safe place for all people to worship

Ministers: the people



March 10, 2019

**LENT 1<sup>C</sup>**

Acknowledgement of Land  
*(An act towards reconciliation)*

## *Gathering*

### ENTRY INTO THE CELEBRATION

*The gong is sounded three times*

This being human is a guest house.  
Every morning is a new arrival. *(Rumi/lp).*

**Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.**

### LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE *A Community Candle is lit*

We light our candle to illuminate the world we seek.  
In the search for truth, may we be just.  
In the search for justice, may we be loving.  
And, in loving, may we find peace. *EMcMaster*

**HYMN: ON EAGLE'S WINGS** (Psalm 91)

**VU 808**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**HYMN: THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL**

**MV 62**



### OPENING SENTENCES

In hope, in longing  
**We're glad to come together.**

In trust, in community  
**We're glad to come together.**

In many moods, in many shapes and sizes  
**We're glad to come together in this Lenten season.**

*(Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer/wsj)*

### PRAYER OF AWARENESS

**Remind us, O Spirit, that life is worth living.**  
**Remind us, O Creator, that the struggle for justice is worth undertaking.**  
**Remind us, O Mercy, that love and action are one.**  
**May it be so.** *(Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer/wsj)*

## *Centering*

Silence and Music of Reflection

# Exploring

## READINGS FROM OUR BROAD RELIGIOUS TRADITION

The World Around Us:

*"We Dare to Imagine a World Where..."*

By Linda Jones. **Let Justice Roll Down**/36.

*"For Waiting in the Wilderness"*

By Keri Wehlander. **A World of Blessing**/142

Traditional Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13 *(Inclusive Text)*

## CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATION

**HYMN: SPIRIT, SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS,**

**VU 375**

# Affirming & Celebrating

**PRAYERS**

**OUR OFFERINGS**

**PRESENTATION**

**WE WILL TAKE WHAT YOU OFFER**

**MV 196**

**By our smallest actions,  
we become part of a bigger world.  
The smallest giving can be an expression  
of the good spirit of generosity and caring.  
May we carry through the doorway of each new day  
this good spirit of generosity and caring. AMEN.**

*(Adapt. Francis Macnab)*

# Scattering

**HYMN: I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY**

**VU 343**

## PARTING WORDS

Let us embrace the wonder of this week  
with expectation and imagination...

Now may our wisdom show itself in deeds of compassion  
and in acts of understanding.

**May the fruits of the spirit  
be apparent in our lives** *(Adapt. PR Giles)*

## WORDS OF BLESSING

May the love that gives to life its beauty,  
the reverence that gives to life its sacredness,  
and the purposes that give to life its deep significance  
be strong within each of us  
and lead us into ever deepening relationships  
with all of life. *GGBrooks*

**May it be so.**

**SUNG RESPONSE: THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL**

**MV 62**

*The Community Candle is extinguished*

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