

# Scattering

HYMN: JUST AS I AM

VU 563

## PARTING WORDS

Come to us, Creating God.

In new life,

In courage,

In wisdom,

In joy.

Bind us together as those who feel your love under our feet

in the warmth of this, our holy ground.

**Dance within our life, Spirit of God,  
that we may be transformed by your eternal passion  
for making all things new.** *Dorothy McRae-McMahon/bst*

*The Community Candle is extinguished*

## WORDS OF BLESSING

Go into this week,

held together by the love of God

clothed with the nature of Jesus our Companion

reinforced by the strength of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen! May it be so!**

SUNG RESPONSE: GO NOW IN PEACE

### Covenant United Church

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# Covenant

*The United Church of Canada*

a safe place for all people to worship

Ministers: the people

26 January, 2020  
Epiphany 3<sup>A</sup>. (Green).

### Acknowledgement of Land *(An act towards reconciliation)*

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

## Gathering

### ENTRY INTO THE CELEBRATION

*The gong is sounded three times*

#### Call to Worship

We gather to worship together,

**followers of Jesus, disciples of Christ,**

all children of the same Parent,

**created lovingly by the Source of all life!**

We worship in many different denominations:

**United, Catholics, Mennonites, Presbyterians and more.**

Yet, we are all disciples of one Teacher.

**Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.**

Different people, different lives, and different histories,

**yet we are one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.**

Let us open ourselves to the presence of God

at work in us, among us, and through us.

Let us worship together in unity.

*Louise Hart, Rockton Sheffield P.C., Rockton, ON*

## OPENING PRAYER

We meet you, O God, in many a guise.  
Our days are filled  
with many different experiences and thoughts.  
**As we gather here, we gather up our days.**  
We have struggled to be true to you:  
to be loving, fair, and forgiving.  
We have thrilled at your presence  
and agonized at your absence.  
**Give us the gift of your Spirit  
in our worship, we pray,  
and oneness as your people,  
with all your people. Amen.**

*Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, ON*

## LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

*The candle is lit*

## HYMN: LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

**MV 97**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## PRAYER OF AWARENESS

We gather grateful for the companionship of hearts and  
minds seeking to speak the truth in love.  
We gather grateful for our heritage, for the women and  
men before us whose imagination, dedication and  
prophetic words and deeds make possible our dreams and  
our insight.  
And we gather grateful for the gift of life itself, mindful  
that to respect life means both to celebrate what life is  
and to insist on what it can become.  
May we always rejoice in life, and work to cultivate a  
sense of its giftedness. *(MSMilnor/Adapt)*  
May it be so.

# Centering

Silence and Music of Reflection

# Exploring

## READINGS FROM OUR BROAD RELIGIOUS TRADITION

Isaiah: 9: 1-4

Hebrew Scriptures: Psalm 27

**VU page 753-755**

Traditional Gospel: Matthew 4:12, 18-23

*(Inclusive Text)*

1Corinthian: 1:10-18

## CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATION

## HYMN: JESUS CALLS US

**VU 562**

# Affirming & Celebrating

## PRAYERS

## OUR OFFERINGS

## PRESENTATION WHAT CAN I DO?

**MV 191**

**As we gather in this place, remembering  
and telling the stories of our faith,  
may we go behind the words to discern their meaning,  
that we may be empowered with courage  
to embrace the living of these days.**

## CELEBRATING COMMUNITY:

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S STYLE OF SUPPER

