



# GOLDEN EARS

## U N I T E D C H U R C H

An Affirming Christian Community for Faith, Justice and Music  
(\*)- indicates that the congregation is invited to rise in body or spirit

**January 22, 2023**  
**Epiphany 3**

### **God Calls Us Together**

#### **Greeting:**

**One:** The Peace of Christ be with you!

**All:** **And also with you.**

#### **Welcome**

#### **Acknowledging the Land**

**One:** We at Golden Ears United Church take seriously the calls to the church that came from the TRC.

One of the ways we do that is to acknowledge that we are guests on the unceded traditional territory of the Katzie and Kwantlen First nations. If you are worshiping at home, I invite you to type the name of the indigenous peoples of the land where you are. We lament the actions of the church in the past in residential schools, and we commit to work for reconciliation.

**All: As Christ's people, let us be people of Love, of  
Truth, and of Reconciliation**

## **Call to Gather**

### **Centering Hymn**

### **MV 4 All Who are Thirsty**

Words: Benton Brown and Glenn Robertson, 1998

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**All who are thirsty, all who are weak,  
come to the fountain.  
Dip your heart in the stream of life.  
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away  
in the waves of his mercy as deep cries out to deep.  
We sing  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. (repeat 4 times)**

*(Piano continues to underscore)*

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Creator God,  
maker of all that is seen  
and all that is hidden;  
we gather here in your house  
to worship and adore you.  
May this house on earth  
be a reflection of your heavenly home.**

**May our doors  
always be open in welcome,  
may our love be shared with all people,  
may our worship be inclusive  
and may our praise be honest and true.  
This we pray in the name of the one  
who was one with you, Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Roddy Hamilton,  
Spill the Beans (adapted)

**\*Hymn MV 157**

**“I Am a Child of God”**

Words: Bruce and Cheryl Harding  
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- 1. I am a child of God,  
I am a glimpse of God's new creation.  
I am a child of God,  
I am a child of God.**
- 2. I am an endless prayer,  
I am a yearning for contemplation,  
I am an endless prayer,  
I am an endless prayer.**
- 3. I am an angry voice,  
I am compassion and consternation,  
I am an angry voice,  
I am an angry voice.**
- 4. I am a cry for peace,**

**I am commitment and dedication,  
I am a cry for peace,  
I am a cry for peace.**

- 5. I am a song of joy,  
I am the moment of jubilation,  
I am a song of joy,  
I am a song of joy.**

## **God Speaks and We Listen**

### **Learning Time**

#### **\*Hymn MV 108**

#### **I Know Your Word**

Words: Psalm 119:105 Adapted by Simeí Monteiro  
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**I know your Word,  
your Word is a lamp to my feet, O God.  
I know your Word,  
your Word is a lamp to my feet, O God.  
I know your Word is a lamp, O God,  
to light my path for ever.  
I know your Word is a lamp, O God,  
to light my path for ever.**

**Es tu Palabra lámpara para mis pies, Señor  
Es tu Palabra lámpara para mis pies, Señor  
Lámpara para mis pies y luz, luz para mi camino  
Lámpara para mis pies y luz, luz para mi camino**

## **Scripture:**

*Today's reading from the Gospel of John takes us into the days of Holy Week, in the movement towards Good Friday and Easter. Jesus has just washed the disciples' feet after the Passover meal. These words are the beginning of his final messages to them before he is arrested.*

*Even more than usual, the disciples are having trouble understanding what Jesus is trying to say to them.*

*He tells them that they know him, that they know God, and they know the way.*

*As you hear the gospel,  
Be present with your own knowing of the Divine,  
And your desire to know.*

## **John 14:1-11 (NRSV, adapted)**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Believe in God, believe also in me.  
In my Creator's house there are many dwelling places.  
If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?  
And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself,  
so that where I am, there you may be also.  
And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him,  
“Lord, we do not know where you are going.  
How can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him,  
“I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Creator except through me.  
If you know me, you will know my Creator also.  
From now on you do know them and have seen them.”

Philip said to him,  
“Lord, show us the Creator,  
and we will be satisfied.”

Jesus said to him,  
“Have I been with you all this time, Philip,  
and you still do not know me?  
Whoever has seen me has seen the Creator.  
How can you say, ‘Show us the Creator’?  
Do you not believe that I am in the Creator and the Creator  
is in me?  
The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own;  
but the Creator who dwells in me does their works.  
Believe me that I am in the Creator and the Creator is in  
me.”

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us:

**All:      Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTION**

**Rev. Wade Lifton**

**A Time for Silent Reflection**

**\*HYMN VU 382**

**“Breathe on Me Breath of God”**

Words: Edwin Hatch 1878  
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Used with gratitude

- 1    Breathe on me, breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.**
- 2    Breathe on me, breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until my will is one with thine,  
to do and to endure.**
- 3    Breathe on me, breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.**
- 4    Breathe on me, breath of God:  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.**

# **Invitation to the Offering**

**\* Offering MV 187**

**We Give Our Thanks (alt)**

Words: Traditional Song Botswana. English Parphrase I-to Loh  
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**We give our hearts to God  
We give our hands to God  
We give our lives to God  
We give our thanks to God**

## **Offering Prayer**

**Special Music:**

**Diane Lines/Sam Ellington**

## **Prayers of the People**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Everpresent God  
hallowed be your name,  
your kindom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts  
as we forgive,  
as we forgive our debtors,  
save us from our trials  
and deliver us from evil**



**for the kindom, and the power  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for evermore.  
Now and forever. Amen**

## **God Sends Us Out to Love and Serve**

### **LIFE AND WORK OF THE COMMUNITY**

**\*Hymn VU 333**

**“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Words: Charles Wesley 1747  
In the Public Domain, used with gratitude

**1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.**

**2 Come, almighty to deliver;  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.**

**3 Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

## **Blessing and Commissioning**

### **\* Going Forth**

### **As You Go Forth**

Words: Diane Lines and Sam Ellington  
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**As you go forth, know you're not alone,  
And know that you are perfect  
in the eyes of God.  
As you go forth know that you are blessed  
and you can be a blessing in the world**

**There is a light and life in all good things,  
and you're the hands of God on the earth.  
As you go forth,  
know that you're surrounded by  
the boundless love of God.**

**There is a light and life in all good things,  
and you're the hands of God on the earth.**

**As you go forth, know that you're surrounded by,  
the boundless love,  
the endless love,  
the perfect love of God. \***

**Postlude**