First United Church

March 26, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Purpose: Building Relationships, Living God's Transforming Love.

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• Is a request to stand in body or in spirit

Prelude 3 Lenten Hymntune Preludes St. Peter; St. Cross; Rockingham

Listening as we Gather

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

One: We begin our service with gratitude and respect as we remember together that this land, this planet is sacred. We are on holy ground.

All: Earth is our only home, and we are related to it as part of the web of life.

One: We lament that we have not honoured our deep relationship with the earth. The climate crisis is one result of our overconsumption and wastefulness. We commit to learning and practicing better care for the earth.

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and their spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Chonnoton, and Anishinaabe and acknowledge their stewardship of the land throughout the ages. We lament that we have not honoured their ways, nor their spirituality and we all live with the consequences.

All: We seek to live into right relationship with all Indigenous people with whom we share the land. We commit to listening to and respecting their wisdom.

One: We aspire to create a safer space for everyone. We welcome you and the gifts you bring a part of your sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, race, cultural background or abilities.

Opportunities for Ministry and Fellowship

Centering

• Introit I have Called You by Your Name verses 1 & 3 MV 161

Lighting of the Christ Candle and procession of the Word

• Call to Worship

ONE: We pay attention to what is behind us...

ALL: and we notice God's presence.

ONE: We pay attention to what is beside us...

ALL: and we know that God is here.

Healey Willan

but we know ONE: No matter wh no matter wh	hat the path is unclear of Christ's promise. No we are, here we come from, here we are going of God is near! r to worship, hrist, e Spirit,		ott, Vancouver, B.C.	
Opening Hymn	The Living God Be Pra	ised	VU 255	
Prayer of Approach				
Ministry of Music:	Come Unto Him from <i>I</i> Hannah Haworth, solo		G.F.Handel	
	Listening For Go	d's Word		
Readings from Our Tradition				
Ezekiel 37: 1-14 One: Herein is w All: Thanks be t		(Reader:	Nancy Lennox)	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 130, Refrain 2		VU 853	
John 11:1-45 One: This is the All: Praise to yo	Gospel of Jesus Christ. Ju , O Christ.			
Ministry of Music: Av	e Verum Corpus		W. A. Mozart	
Sermon: "What's in a	name?: Martha, Jesus a	ind true identity"	Sherry Coman	
• Hymn Lord if You ha	d only been there	BEACH SPRING	By Carolyn Gillette	
Permanding to Cad's Word				

Responding to God's Word

Time of Offering

Offertory	When I Survey the Wondrous Cross	Malcolm Archer

Dedication of Offering We Give You but Your Own VU 542

Prayer of Dedication:

ONE: Holy One, we know that money alone cannot solve the pain of poverty. We confess that there is also a spiritual poverty that can only be overcome by changing people's minds and changing the systems that disempower many of us.

ALL: So, we offer our treasures and the prayers of our hearts that all of your children may live in dignity. In the name of Jesus, who also lived in poverty, we make this prayer. Amen.

Carol O'Neil, Westminster U.C., Whitby, Ont.

Call to Prayer O God, Hear my Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

God of many Faces Sending Hymn tune: SLANE Text by Amy Cerniglia in Songs for the Holy Other

Sending Forth and Benediction

ONE: Dry Bones, Despairing Ones, Frightened Ones, remember:

- ALL: God is with us and will never abandon us.
- ONE: We go into the coming week as people of hope and life and restoration.

May it be so. Amen.

ALL: May it be so. Amen.

Beth W Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask.

Benediction Response Threefold Amen Amen, amen, amen

Recession of the Light and Word

Postlude:

VU 948

VU 967