

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Guest Preacher: Carolyn Hendry

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Reader: Colin Whiteside

Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Gabriela and Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox, Marina Commisso

WELCOME AND CALL TO THE GATHERED

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE LAND

HYMN: VU#345 "Come Children, Join to Sing"

1. Come, children, join to sing: Hallelujah!
Praise to our Servant King: Hallelujah!
Let all with heart and voice, saved by God's gracious choice,
now in this place rejoice: Hallelujah!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Hallelujah!
Raise high the joyous strain: Hallelujah!
The whole creation o'er let all God's love adore,
singing for evermore: Hallelujah!
3. Praise yet our Christ again: Hallelujah!
Raise high the joyous strain: Hallelujah!
The whole creation o'er let all God's love adore,
singing for evermore: Hallelujah!

OPENING PRAYER: read by Colin Whiteside

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE: As we light this Christ candle may it remind us that God is in us and in our world.

SUNG RESPONSE: MV#21 "Open Our Hearts"

Open our hearts. Open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God. Open our hearts.

THEME CONVERSATION: How Was Christmas?

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 38:13-16 and 24, Joshua 2:3-7, Ruth 1:6,7 16-18, 2 Samuel 2:5,11
Matthew 1:18-20

HYMN: VU#595 "We Are Pilgrims"

1. We are pilgrims on a journey; fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
2. Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow, till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

SERMON: "Five Amazing Women in the Life of Jesus"

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS and SPECIAL MUSIC:

SUNG RESPONSE: MV#136 "When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace" (verses 1, 5)

1. When hands reach out and fingers trace the beauty of a loved one's face,
we thank you, God, that love relies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
5. Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve you well and offer praise.
When all are joined as one, we'll be your able, strong community.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER read by Colin Whiteside

CLOSING HYMN: VU#333 "Love Divine"

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, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in the 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.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: "Go In Love"

Go in love; have no fear. God will guide you, God is always near. Go in love; take God's hand.
God will hear you, God will understand. May God's light forever shine upon you; may God's peace be
always in your heart. Go in love; face each day. God will lead you, God will show the way.
Go in love and live in faith. Amen.

POSTLUDE: