

**SouthWest United Church
January 22, 2023
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
Answering The Call**

**Prelude
Welcome**

Gathering Hymn: MV 157 I Am a Child of God

Welcoming the Light

Come among us Jesus, you whom angels' worship and children welcome. Come among us Jesus, you who walked the long roads along the Sea of Galilee and lit a flame that dances forever. Come Jesus. Meet us here.

Amen. *I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me! If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery of what you were meant to do and be. (VU 87)

Call to worship

In our moments of despair, we are given hope. When we our faith seems unfounded, we are able to trust, when the journey fills us with fear, he walks with us. Come, let us worship the one who loves us. Amen

Opening prayer

This is the moment of praise: **praise to the One who has created us and sustains us.** This is the moment of trust: **trust in the One who remains faithful as the years change.** This is the moment of community: **community of those who profess their faith in Jesus, who in word and compassion work together.** This is the moment of hope: **Hope for those in the midst of life's storm. We give our praise, our trust and hope to God. Amen.**

Hymn: VU 661 Come to My Heart

Prayers for Grace and Transformation

Words of Affirmation

God is listening. God hears our prayer and wishes us peace. God forgives us and loves us. This is the good news. Amen.

The Peace

Exegesis/Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9 VU pg. 754-55

Matthew 4:12-23

Reflection

Hymn: VU 273 The King of Love (vs 1-2-3)

Invitation to the Offering

***Doxology:* Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide. (MV 145)**

Offertory Prayer

As we offer our gifts to you O God, remind us that learning generosity is part of our call to follow the One who models your gracious nature in every word, every gesture, every day. Amen

Announcements

Prayers of the people/Lords Prayer

***And when you call for me, I have already answered. And when you call for me, I am already there. (MV 96)**

Extinguish the Candle/Blessing

Closing Hymn: VU 646 We Are Marching

SouthWest United Church
c/o 225, 50e Avenue, Lachine QC H8T 2T7
Office/bureau: 514-538-0624
Email/courriel southwestunited@gmail.com
Web : Southwestunited.net



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples. SouthWest United worships on the traditional territory of the Mohawk, members of the Six Nation Confederacy, including Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga Seneca and Tuscarora peoples.

Pastor: Beryl Barraclough, DLM
Director of Music: Sarah Fraser
Clerk of Session: Dennis Brown
Office Administrator: Amy Barratt

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They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him. Matt. 24: 18-20

Service Time 11:30 a.m.