March 20, 2022 Lent Three

Welcome

Gathering: Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God...Open our hearts (MV 21)

Candle

God of wilderness wanderings, when we are lost or feel alone, when we lose hope and our faith falters, you are there ready to guide and inspire us. As we follow Jesus' footsteps on our Lenten journey may we be open to your comforting and yet challenging presence among us. May we walk in light together with unity of heart and purpose as people of faith, hope and courage. Amen

Call to Worship

In this place, at this time, let God call out of us what is good. In this place, at this time, let us surrender what does harm. In this place, at this time, let us worship the God who knows us and loves us.

*Cradle me in your arms, cherish and comfort me. O Jesus, source of healing love, in your presence I am free. (MV 91)

Opening Prayer (Based on Psalm 63)

God, we look up and see you in the sanctuary. We come to you hungry and thirsty, ready to be filled with the bread of life, ready to be refreshed by living water. Our lips praise your name, singing songs and shouting to the heavens. We lift up our hands and call on your name. We come to this place to satisfy our souls, to meditate on your love, to remember the journeys of those who go before us. God, in the shadow of your wings, we sing for joy! Amen.

Hymn: VU 615 When Quiet Peace Is Shattered

<u>Prayers for Grace & Transformation/Words of</u> **Assurance**

God has set a glorious table laden with abundant pardon and forgiveness, calling us to receive it and live once again. Silent moment
Taste now the peace that lies within grace.
Drink to the full all that God offers to us.
Let us lift up our hearts in thankfulness.
Thanks be to God. Amen

The Peace

Scripture Prayer for Illumination

First Testament: Isaiah 55 : 1-9
Psalm 63
VU page 781
Gospel
Luke 13 : 1-9

*Confitemini Domino... Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia. (MV 16)

Reflection

Hymn: VU 651 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

<u>Invitation to the offering/Doxology (VU 538)</u> <u>Offertory Prayer/Announcements</u>

Prayers of Hope/Lord's Prayer

*The answer, my friend, is Blowin' In The Wind, the answer is Blowin' In The Wind

Benediction/Commissioning

Hymn: VU 337 Blessed Assurance

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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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Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.