GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music for Meditation

Gathering Song

A light is gleaming,
spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share it's gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.

So let us live in the brightness God has given.
And let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here asparkle and ablaze,
warming all our days.

A light is gleaming …
VU 82 words and music: Linnea Good

Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

Holy light, still burning bright,
presence of God that frees us.
Lift the shadows from our soul, shine through our life,
Christ Jesus.

Holy fire, our hearts desire, dance of our life, pursue us.
Mend our frozen broken hearts, Spirit of God, renew us.
-words and music: Jim Strathdee

Opening Prayer

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Hymn Gather Us In [see back page]

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Scripture reading: Luke 3: 15-17, 21-23

Reflection

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn MV 94 Love Knocks and Waits

Prayers of the People

refrain: **O God we call, O God we call,**
from deep inside we yearn, from deep inside we yearn.
from deep inside we yearn for you.
VU 411 words and music: Linnea Good

Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
from each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One.
-words: Parker Palmer, music: Chellan Hoffman, Stephen D. Miller

Offering our Gifts

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn VU 384 The Lone Wild Bird

Commissioning and Blessing

Response

May the love of our God rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.
MV 218 words Maria Ling Poh Choo; music: Swee Hong Li

Gather Us In
Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your people beloved
Call us anew to be salt for the earth
Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
words and music: Marty Haugen

James Bay United Church

Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward

JANUARY 9, 2022

