



Sunset United Church

April 3, 2022 – Lent 5

Full to the Brim: Brazen Acts of Beauty



*Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,
is an Affirming community of faith. All are welcome here.*

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words

Centering Music

Lighting the Christ Candle¹

Call to Worship²

May we find courage here –

**Courage to follow our call,
courage to live out our faith.**

May we find hope here –

**Hope for a better world,
Hope that refuses to let us go**

May we find truth here –

**Truth that lives in sacred community,
Truth that lives in ancient stories,**

May we find all that we seek.

And in our seeking, may we know God.

Amen.

Hymn VU#400 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying³

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Jesus of Nazareth,
We admit that often we tuck our faith
Into our pockets,
Hiding in a place of comfort
Rather than proudly declaring:
Yes we are Christian,
Yes we believe,
Yes this faith has changed me.
We are so afraid of offending others
Or embarrassing ourselves
That we have established rules:
No faith at the dinner table,
No faith in politics,
No faith with strangers.
Forgive us for whispering
When we could be singing.
Forgive us for staying quiet
When we could be part of rewriting the narrative.
We want to be brave.
We want to pour out perfume over your feet.
These things we pray, amen.

Words of Assurance

Family of Faith, hear this good news:

Even in our silence,

God loves us.

Even in our fear or shame,

God chooses us.

Even when we sin,

God wraps us in grace.

You are free –

To be bold, to be brazen, to be exactly who

God called you to be.

Thanks be to God, amen.

Sung Response MV#115 Behold, Behold I Make All
Things New⁴

**Behold, (behold,) behold, (behold,) I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.**

**Behold, (behold,) behold, (behold,) I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

Sharing the Story

Hymn VU#290 Nothing Can Trouble⁵

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.

Those who seek God shall never go wanting

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.

God alone fills us.

WE LISTEN

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Isaiah 43:16-21
 John 12:1-8

Special Music

Reflection

Hymn VU#590 A Prophet - Woman Broke a Jar⁶

 A prophet-woman broke a jar,
 by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
 presiding and anointing.
 A prophet-woman broke a jar,
 the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
 preparing Christ for dying.

 A faithful woman left a tomb
 by Love's divine commission.
She was, she heard, she preached the Word,
 arising from submission.
 A faithful woman left a tomb,
 with resurrection gospel.
She saw, she heard, she preached with Word,
 apostle to apostles.

Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth,
 for centuries were hidden,
 unsung, unwritten, and unheard,
 derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire,
 on free and slave descending,
 can tumble our dividing walls,
 our shame and sadness mending.

The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need to serve and lead,
their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
from women, men, and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice, and make them welcome!

Prayers of the Community and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU#418 Go Forth for God⁷

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.

Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

Go forth for God, go to the world in strength,
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;

render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

Sending Forth and Blessing

Amen (Traditional threefold Amen)

Postlude



Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)



¹ Prayer adapted from one written by Juanita Austin found in *Gathering: L/E 2022 (year C) Prayers for Worship*, page 30. Used with permission.

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