



Sunset United Church



February 24th, 2019 - Epiphany 5C -

Black History Month

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Nancy Edwards

Pianists: Shirley Hill/Kevin Petrychyn

“Never be limited by other people’s limited imagination”

Dr. Mae Jemison, first African American female astronaut

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Candles



Hymn: VU#402 We Are One (verse 1) *****

Call to Worship *

Friends, the God of hope is calling,

Offering refreshment to those who are weary and heavy laden.

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens,

And I will give you rest.

Friends, the God of peace is calling,

Offering tender words of comfort to those in distress.

Come children,
How often I have longed to gather you together
as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings.

Friends, the God of love is calling,
Offering friendship and communion to those who feel alone.

Come everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you that have no money, come buy and eat
without money
And without cost.

Friends, come, God is calling us to worship.
It is an offer too irresistible to refuse.

Opening Prayer:

**

God of love, peace and unity,
We thank you for welcoming us all just as we are;
For making us equal as your children
From all corners of the earth;
And for giving us your blessings as your children;
And for making us belong.

We pray that you help us realize that we are
All made in your image, and we need to bring peace
To all your creation as one people who belong to you.
We ask all this through Christ our sibling. Amen.

Opening Hymn: VU#383 Come, O Holy Spirit, Come ***

Prayer of Confession

Holy One,
For the past month we have acknowledged
The presence of racism in our world and in our church,
Recognizing in particular the violence and hate directed
At our Black siblings worldwide.

We pray that the Spirit will reorient us:

Challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement;

Expecting us to be a blessing to the earth.

We pray that by acknowledging our brokenness, we will be closer to becoming a church where the good news is lived out:

Faith nurtured and hearts comforted,

Gifts shared for the good of all,

Resistance to the forces that exploit and marginalize,

Fierce love in the face of violence,

Human dignity defended,

Members of a community held and inspired by God.

Through our prayers and silent confessions, may we witness to your love and grace

-Silent Prayer-

Words of Assurance

Passing the Peace



WE LISTEN

Anthem: Lord I want to Be a Christian

Sharing the Story – One Love

Scripture: Luke 6: 27-38

Reflection

Hymn: VU#684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace <<

WE RESPOND

Offering Collection and Dedication

Hymn: VU#538 The Gift of Creation <<<<

Prayer

Prayers of the Community

The Lord's Prayer (VU#959)

Hymn: VU#606 In Christ There is No East or West <<*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



*Words written by Alydia Smith, found in United Church of Canada worship resource: *How Long Will We have to Cry?*

** From Liturgy for Black History Month Submitted by: Rev. Wilson Gonese, Burgeo Pastoral Charge, Burgeo, Newfoundland & Labrador. Used with permission

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