

# Sunset United Church

March 20, 2022 – Lent 3 Full to the Brim: You are Worthy



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 Candle<sup>1</sup>

Call to Worship<sup>2</sup> Come, all who are thirsty. Come, all who are seeking. Come, all who are waiting. Come, all who labour. Come, all who need rest. Come, all who dream dreams. Come – Whether you're young or old, Confident or curious, Lonely or hopeful. This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship God. Hymn MV#12 Come Touch Our Hearts<sup>3</sup>

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion, from failing embers build a blazing fire; love strong enough to overturn injustice, to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls that we may know and love you, your quiet presence all our fears dispel; create a space for spirit to grow in us, let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason, set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream; help us to open doors of understanding, to welcome truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in the moments we are fragile, and in our weakness your great strength reveal; that we may rise to follow and to serve, steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God We treat our self-worth like something That can be bought at a store; But know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, Instead of trusting that we are loved

2

Exactly as we are, We stockpile our value in earthly things – In trophies and awards, In likes and follows, In wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick. Heal our open wounds And tell our hearts that we won't be forgotten If we slow down. We won't be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

### Words of Assurance

Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw. There is good news here. For even when we stumble, Even when we take the easy way out, Even when we forget our own self worth, Even when we lose our way – We belong to God.

Say it with me – We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God's wing. We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.

Sung Response MV#85 Take, O Take Me As I Am<sup>4</sup>

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

## Sharing the Story

Hymn MV#92 Like a Rock<sup>5</sup>
Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

## WE LISTEN

## Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Isaiah 55:1-9 Luke 13:1-9

**Special Music** 

## Reflection

Hymn MV#161 I Have Called You by Your Name<sup>6</sup>
I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called and chosen; you are mine.
I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go; feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow. Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt, hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine; I have given you my Spirit as a sign. With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole; go and tell my precious people they are mine.

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#651 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah<sup>7</sup> Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

> Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar

lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side: songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

Sending Forth and Blessing

Amen (Traditional threefold Amen)

Postlude

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Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her) Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey (she/her) Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her) Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)

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 <sup>1</sup> Prayer adapted from one written by Juanita Austin found in Gathering: L/E 2022 (year C) Prayers for Worship, page 30. Used with permission.
 <sup>2</sup> Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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<sup>7</sup> Words: Welsh, William Williams 1745; English Trans. Peter Williams and William Williams 1771. Music John Hughes 1905. Reprinted under One License 605683.

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