



RIVERBEND UNITED CHURCH

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March 24, 2019 Lent 3

A Song of Faith: Worship and Scripture

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. As we worship today, we honour their stewardship of this land through the ages.

We Gather Together

Prelude

Andrew Sims

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Gather Us In

MV 7

Call to Worship

(A Song of Faith, United Church of Canada 2006)

One: We offer worship
as an outpouring of gratitude and awe.

**All: We offer worship as a practice
of opening our hearts
to God's still, small voice of comfort,
to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

One: Through word, music, art, and sacrament,
in community and in solitude,

**All: God changes our lives, our relationships,
and our world.
We sing with trust.**

Opening Prayer *(In Unison) (A Song of Faith, United Church of Canada, 2006)*

**Holy One, we sing of you as Creator;
You make us live and move
and have our being in You.**

**In and with You,
may we direct our lives toward right relationship
with each other and with You.**

By your grace, You invite us into new life.

Today we sing with trust in You. Amen.

*Heritage Hymn

How Firm a Foundation vss. 1, 2, 3, 5 VU 660

Children's Time / Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

VU 365

Children are invited forward for a special time. After the hymn, children grades K-6 can go downstairs for Sunday School. Parents with littler ones are welcome in the Family Room adjacent to the sanctuary where the service can be seen and heard. Grades 7 & older can join Youth Discussion downstairs.

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

We Listen for God's Ongoing Word

Lenten Contemplation

Stay With Me (Repeated multiple times) VU 950

During this time, we are invited to take a few deep breaths and centre our hearts in the Holy. What is it that we need to let go of in our lives? What is it that we are being called into next in our faith journey?

Lenten Litany *(In Unison)*

(A Song of Faith, United Church of Canada, 2006)

**Scripture is our song for the journey, the living word
passed on from generation to generation
to guide and inspire,
that we might wrestle a holy revelation
for our time and place.
God calls us to be doers of the word
and not hearers only.**

**The Spirit breathes revelatory power into scripture.
The Spirit judges us critically when we abuse scripture
by interpreting it narrow-mindedly,
using it as a tool of oppression, exclusion, or hatred.**

**The wholeness of Scripture testifies
to the oneness and faithfulness of God.
The multiplicity of scripture testifies to its depth,
a faithful witness to the one God,
the Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.**

Anthem

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9; John 14: 8-11

Reflection

"We Sing to Believe"

Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Response

God of the Bible vss. 1, 2, 5

MV 28

We Offer our Gifts and our Lives

Offering Our Gifts

*Parting Hymn *I Love to Tell the Story* VU 343

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction Choir

*Postlude Andrew Sims

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined
VU indicates the red hard-bound hymnal, Voices United
MV indicates the small paper-bound hymnal More Voices*

*Join Rev. Valerie on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel for
a Lenten Study called "Singing a Song of Faith",
from Sunday, through to Sunday, April 7th
No book required.*

*Riverbend United Church
Welcomes You*

If you are new with us we offer you a special welcome.

Please feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pews or to our minister, Valerie. If you fill out a Contact Card from the pew rack we will send you a weekly email with upcoming events.

Confirmation (Membership) for youth (grade 9 and up) and adults (separately) is being offered this Spring. Please see Valerie.