



Riverbend United Church
March 8, 2020
Second Sunday in Lent



Steps to the Cross

We Gather Together

Prelude Andrew Sims

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Andante – J. S. Bach* Handbell Choir

Call to Worship

One: We gather to take a few more steps through the wilderness with Jesus.

All: Our Lenten steps are suspended between death and rebirth, between anxiety and faith, between fear and love.

One: In this eternal mystery, on this profound journey, we are not alone.

All: Thanks be to God.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

God of courage, you call us to be born anew with you. You call us to live as those filled with eternal life, now. May we be carved out to give you the space of our every thought, word and deed, so that we might live as children of your love. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* VU 333

Children's Time Krystal Manuel

Children are invited forward for a special time. Grades K – 6 can then go downstairs for Sunday School. Youth Discussion is at the same time. A "Family Room" is located through the door by the piano upstairs where the service can be seen and heard if your young children become too restless for your comfort.

*Children's Song *I Am Walking a Path of Peace* MV 221

We Listen for God's Ongoing Word

Scripture Reading John 3: 1-17 David Galbraith

Anthem "Here I Am, Lord" by D. Schutte; arr. A. Sherman

Reflection "Born from Above?" Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Response *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace* VU 684

*Affirming Our Faith *A New Creed* VU 918

We Share in Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns (Community Sharing Time)

Prayer Hymn *Take, O Take Me as I Am* MV 85

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Hymn *Take, O Take Me as I Am* MV 85

We Offer our Gifts and our Lives

Offering Our Gifts *Adagio – M. Helman* Handbell Choir

*Parting Hymn *Will Your Anchor Hold* vss 1, 2, 3 VU 675

*Benediction

*Musical Response *Walk with Me* VU 649

*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 coil-bound hymnal More Voices*

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 news & upcoming events.



Hearing Assistance is available.
Please ask at the sound booth.

Sunday, March 15th ~ Young Family Luncheon after worship.

Please drop a note in the office if you are coming with number of adults and children or youth who will be coming.

This Week's Lenten Invitations in Steps to the Cross:

Read *The Gospel of John* chapters 4-6

Walk 20 minutes a day

or

Do deep breathing exercises for 10 minutes a day
to renew body and mind

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