

**St. David's United Church
January 12 2020
Second Sunday in Epiphany**



***Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an
Affirming and Inclusive Community***

Welcome to St. David's United Church

3303 Capitol Hill Crescent NW

Calgary, Alberta T2M 2R2

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Sunday, January 12 2020

Peggy McDonagh presiding with the people of St. David's

Regardless of your age, stage, gender, sexual identity, or how great or small you feel your faith is we each bring something of ourselves to this place. Come as you are -- and be.

Prior to the service the Affirming and Value candles were lit to affirm that all humanity and creation must be respected and valued. The Treaty 7/Metis Region 3 candle was lit to show respect for the land and to affirm our continued commitment to live into right relations with our indigenous brothers and sisters.

SEED OF MEDITATION

"There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of even one single candle." - Robert Alden

Prelude

Improvisation

Welcome

EXPANSION OF OUR HEARTS

FOCUSING ON THE LIGHT

Reader: We gather together to worship the One Who is Light and as we come together, our hearts are expanded. All life yearns to reach and expand toward the Light so that all might arise and shine in the Glory of God. The season of Epiphany invites us to experience our lives as blessing—as filled with God's radiance—our attitudes and activities offer us a chance to shine the Divine Light of Love into the world.

Opening Hymn

Arise, Your Light has Come! VU #79

- 1 Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,

which shines on you today.

- 2 Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.

Entrance into worship and Lighting the Christ Candle

Christmas has been packed away once more.
Yet we continue to feel the residue of hopeful joy, loving joy,
abundant joy and peaceful joy flowing in our lives.

May the light of Christ continue to shine
in the world and into the shadowed corners,
so that all may know God's healing love. (*Christ light is lit*)

Light of New Life

**continue to rise and shine in and through us so that your light
may encompass the world. Amen.**

(adapted Roxanne Williams, Gaetz Memorial, Red Deer)

All Sing: Gather Us In MV #7
(Choir sings first and then all join in)

Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in,
ground us, ground us in you.

Gathering Prayer

Mystery of Light
Wonder of Love

We gather this morning. . .
on our way from something. . .
on our way to something. . .
but here we stop.

We stop

to rest, to turn our attention to all that is holy.

We stop

**in sacred community, held and loved,
to break bread together.**

We stop

**to give praise, to sing, to pray, to give, to receive,
to arise into your loving light, present in and around us. Amen.**

RECEPTION OF GOD'S WORD

READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-3 (Amplified Bible); Matthew 5:14-16; Luke 11:36

Reflection

"Arising and Shining in the New Year"

Hymn

Bathe Me in Your Light

MV #82

Bathe me in your light, O God of All, creator;
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
Showing me the way to live in faith,
In your embrace.

Bathe me in your love, O Source of Awe and Wonder;
Help me walk the sacred path of harmony and peace.
May I be attentive to the musings of your presence,
Drinking from the well of hope that brings the heart release.

Bathe me in your grace, O One of Spirit's longing;
Teach me of your gentle ways that fill the soul with strength.
Guide me on the pilgrimage that leads to truth and wholeness,
Fill me with your promise of a love that knows no length.

TRANSFORMATION OF OUR LIVES

Invitation to offer the gifts of our hearts and hopes

Offertory

Lully, Lulla, Lullay – Traditional/setting by Philip Stopford

Reception of Offering & Presentation of Communion Elements

Dedication Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table vs. 1 VU #457

1 As we gather at your table,

as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to be in Communion with God and one another

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

[Sung part to the tune of "Be Thou My Vision"]

Cantor Oh God be with you, now lift we our praise.

All **And God be with you too, now and always.**

Cantor Let us give thanks to God, so right to do.

All **All-loving Maker, we give back to you.**

God set in motion the grandest creativity project of all – light where there was no light. . .And so, we proclaim with all peoples and creation, in all times and places:

Cantor Holy and Holy is God's saving Light

All **So full of glory, God's wide seeing sight**

Cantor Blessed are all people who come in Love's name,

All **God's living light we each seek to reclaim.**

God of infinite light, your creativity knows no bounds and in the fullness of time you came to us. . . Together we participate in the Body of the Risen Christ, for we are the Body of the Risen Christ.

Anthem

The Lord's Prayer – setting by Joseph Gentry Stephens

Each time we share this bread what shall we do?

(Repeat after leader)

We will break ourselves open

We will break ourselves open

We will pour ourselves out

We will pour ourselves out

In food for the hungry

In food for the hungry

And love for the stranger

And love for the stranger

Just as Christ offered all

Just as Christ offered all

So too shall we

So too shall we

We will rise to new life

We will rise to new life

And commit to create

And commit to create

Love and justice for all

Love and justice for all

Sharing the Bread and the Cup *(at stations)*

God of Life pour out your Holy Spirit upon us in this moment so that we might know your presence and power in our lives.

Make us one so that we can co-create your reign on earth as it is in heaven. Let this bread and fruit of the vine fill us with your Spirit for the work and play of loving creation and each other fully.

Let the people repeat after leader:

Amen!

Amen!

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

(For those unable to come forward, raise your hand and the bread and the cup will be served to you. For those unable to take juice or eat bread alternative elements are available.)

Communion Anthem
O Sacred Feast – Healey Willan

Prayer after Receiving

COMPASSION FOR THE WORLD

Connecting to the Light can compel us to want this connection for all beings.
We leave this place “with passion” (com-passion) as we shine the light of
Divine Love over the world.

Closing Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

VU #481

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.

- 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Sung Blessing

Belfast Amen – Philip Stopford

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

**Thank you to Marjorie Chrapko who has donated
money for flowers for 25 years, including this
week.**

**Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives
through Worship & Nurture
Season of Epiphany**

Throughout the season we are examining the many ways we can “Arise and Shine” not only to make our individual lives more meaningful but to shed the Divine lights of hope and love on the challenges facing humanity and creation.

January 16

Mike and Dianne Trew presiding with the People of St. David's

‘Shining’ the Light that leads my Life

January 29

Wayne Holst and ACTS presiding with the people of St. David's

‘Arising” to other ways of approaching the God. *Holy Envy* - finding the sacred in unexpected places.

**THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY
WORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

Greeters.....January Sacred Service Team
UshersJanuary Sacred Service Team
Counters.....
Projection.....PSALT Team
Reader.....Margie Nyberg
MusicChamber Choir

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**CALGARY
ECUMENICAL
TAIZÉ PRAYER**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2020

ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH
3303 Capitol Hill Cres NW, Calgary AB, T2M 2R2

Our Next Taizé Prayer is:

JANUARY 17, 2020

at ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH

[3303 Capitol Hill Crescent NW, Calgary, AB T2M 2R2](#)

5:30 – 6:15 - Free Supper

6:15 – 7:00 - Song Practice – orientation to prayer

7:00 – 7:30 - Silence

7:30 – 8:30 - Taize Prayer service

We offer a free community meal **at 5:30 (soup supper)** provided by volunteers. We run a song practice (an orientation to the prayer) **at 6:15 pm for 45 minutes** - everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend! The intention in Taize Prayer is for the congregation to become the choir - this practice helps everyone to participate. We begin the silence in the church **at 7 pm** so the silence has time to mature before the prayer begins.

The prayer itself is from 7:30-8:30. We arrange everything for the meal (including clean up) and service and we offer lots of opportunities for folks to get involved if they wish.

Each month we are hosted by a different church /denomination which helps to maintain and expand the ecumenical character of the Prayer and broaden our outreach.

I am Rev. Clara King, St. George's Anglican Church, the coordinator for Taizé, an ecumenical Taizé Prayer in Calgary. A little background about me: I've had a connection with the Taizé Community since 2005. I have been to Taizé nine times and have lived there as a permanent citizen. I've gone with the brothers to Nairobi in 2008 and Pine Ridge (SD) in 2012. In May, I organized for Brother Emile to come to Calgary and he encouraged me to start an ecumenical Taizé Prayer here.

What is Taizé?

Taizé is a Christian monastic community in France, started by Brother Roger in 1940. It is an ecumenical community, which means it is not Catholic or Protestant, Orthodox or Evangelical—it is *Christian*, deeply rooted in Scripture and prayer. Taizé welcomes people from every part of the Christian family, and beyond. In the Prayer of Taizé, we are invited to meet God *whose very nature is love* (1 John 4:8).

In the early years of the Community of Taizé, the brothers worshipped in the Benedictine style, in French and Latin, singing ancient chants. However, beginning in the '50s, young people began to gather in great numbers around the community. Few of these young people spoke French, or knew Benedictine Chant, and so the worship became a sort of spectator sport: the brothers praying in the middle, surrounded by crowds of curious young people!

Brother Roger felt this wasn't right. He felt that worship should invite everyone to participate—no matter the many languages they spoke, the many denominations they were from and the many people who were only just beginning to know Christ. And so, working with the famous French composer, Jacques Breathier, Brother Roger developed the style of worship that is now famous around the world.

Today, Taizé Prayer is made up almost entirely of songs: words from Scripture set to simple repetitive chants. The music is easy enough that everyone can participate; yet offers incredible opportunities for talented musicians to explore. All of us together *become the choir*, creating beauty none of us could manage alone. Each song is sung many times, to help us experience the Scripture more deeply each time. Each repetition is a new prayer from our hearts to God.

There is no preaching in the Taizé Prayer. We listen to a short passage of Scripture, and then meditate upon it in one long period of silence. In the silence we open our hearts to hear what God wishes to say to us. We can listen without fear, confident in God's loving mercy. In childlike trust, we can bring before God our shortcomings and regrets; our gifts, joys and hopes; our worries and fears.

Following the silence, we pray for the needs of others: for the world, for the poor, for those who strive to make the world more like the kingdom of God. In prayer, God connects us with the wider body of Christ and all Cree- action.

We finish the prayer with several more songs, and leave the Sanctuary in silence, the last notes of beauty still quivering in the air.

We hope you'll join us.

