

YELLOWKNIFE UNITED CHURCH
An Affirming Ministry and Congregation of
The United Church of Canada
Third Sunday in Lent - February 28, 2016

* rise in body or spirit

GATHERING



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Prelude

Lighting the Worship Candles

Introit 376 VU Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. 2x
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all.
Make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love.
Humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

Call to Worship

God creates the universe,
and with it the possibility of being and relating.

**God tends the universe,
mending the broken and reconciling the estranged.**

God enlivens the universe,
guiding all things toward harmony with their source.

**Grateful for God's action,
we cannot keep from singing.**

Text by Martha Reynolds, Lent 3 Bulletin Cover, 2010.

Opening Prayer

All: Wondrous God, you are holy mystery.
Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are your ways higher than our ways.
Yet, you invite us to abundant life.
Thirsting, we come to drink at your well.
Hungry, we are nourished at your table.

Empty, we are filled with your life-giving Spirit.
Satisfied, we go out to share your light
and life with the world.

May it be so, wondrous God, who is holy mystery,
wholly love.

The Prayer of Jesus *page 921*

***Hymn 111** VU As the Sung With Longer Journey

Prayer of Confession with Sung Assurances

O God of love and compassion, there are times when we
confidently walk the road, sure of ourselves, sure of the way,
only to discover we were wrong.

(sing) And when you call for me, I have already answered.

And when you call for me, I am already there.

There are other times when we set out tentatively, unsure of
which way to turn, being careful of soft shoulders and rough
pavement.

(sing) And when you call for me, I have already answered.

And when you call for me, I am already there.

O God, we confess these extremes that reveal signs of broken
relationship with you – broken because we rely too much on
ourselves, broken because we fail to trust your presence.

(sing) And when you call for me, I have already answered.

And when you call for me, I am already there.

In this season of journey, and reflection on journey, may we be
given a mind to understand and accept your presence among us
– a place where we accept that we are your people, and that
what we have comes from you, and a place where we are given
courage and confidence to travel the road, knowing that you
will guide and support us.

(sing) And when you call for me, I have already answered.

And when you call for me, I am already there.

Amen.

LISTENING

The Life and Work of the Community

Learning with Children

Song 356 VU Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Hebrew Bible Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-9

Responsive Reading: Psalm 63 *page 781 Refrain Two*

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Gospel Reading: Luke 13: 1-9

Sermon

Suspended Lent

RESPONDING

***Hymn** 578 VU As the Fire Is Meant for Burning

Minute for Mission

Offering and *Doxology Tune: 542 VU

These Lenten gifts we bring, our living faith express
We offer them most lovingly, and thus our hearts are blessed.
O loving God, receive these gifts we gladly give
That show our faith and hope and trust; your way we seek to live.

Prayers of the People

***Hymn** 427 VU To Show By Touch and Word

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

Choral Response Change the World with Love *Martin/Nix*