

Yellowknife United Church
An Affirming Ministry and Congregation of
The United Church of Canada
Third Sunday after Epiphany - January 24, 2016



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* rise in body or spirit

Gathering

Prelude

Lighting the Worship Candles as we Prepare for Worship

***Introit 8 MV And On This Path**

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide 3x
Open wide! open wide! open wide! The gates are open wide!
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide! 3x
Open wide! open wide! open wide! The gates are open wide!

Opening Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

***Hymn 135 MV Called By Earth and Sky**

Prayer of Confession

Every Sunday, we gather together faithfully,
waiting to hear a word of inspiration
upon which we can guide our lives.

**During the week, amidst the demands of the world,
the word we heard in worship is lost,
drowned out in the noise of other demands.**

Every Sunday, we gather together faithfully,
bowing our heads in prayer,
seeking communion with you, O God.

**During the week, with our calendars tightly packed,
the prayers we uttered and the communion we felt
is pushed aside by other priorities.**

Every Sunday, we gather together faithfully,
reminded of our identity as the Body of Christ,
finding purpose through the Spirit's guidance.

**During the week, with no time to listen,
and only time to speak and to act,
we lose touch with you, O God.**

Remind us of who and whose we are.

Forgive us, we pray, rewriting our hearts with yours.
...(silent prayer)...Amen.

Words of Assurance

Choral Response 21 MV Open Our Hearts

Listening

Anthem Shine On Us *Michael W. Smith and Debbie Smith*

Learning With Children

Song 37 MV Circle of God

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19 *see insert*

Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 14-21

Sermon Part of Something Bigger

Responding

***Hymn** 79 MV Spirit, Open My Heart

The Life and Work of the Congregation

Offering and *Doxology 184 MV

Ay, ay, salidummay, let us give thanks to God.

Prayers of the People

***Hymn** 171 MV Christ Has No Body Now But Yours

*Blessing and Sending Forth

Now go forth with eyes in search of vision,
with hands for healing,
arms for embracing,
and lips bearing words of hope and joy.
And may the love of Christ be with you,
now and always. Amen.

***Choral Response** 8 MV And On This Path

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide 3x
Open wide! open wide! open wide! The gates are open wide!

Healing in a Nuclear Zone

The nuclear plant in Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, India is making people sick in the surrounding villages up to 50 Km away, Dr. Pugazhendhi believes. India's Atomic Energy Department says the radiation levels are too low to cause any ill effects, but the doctor argues that there is no safe limit.

He cites three different studies that found that the rates of cancer and autoimmune diseases were higher in the area, at rates that are statistically significant. In and around Kalpakkam, the rate of thyroid disease is 5 times higher than that in more distant villages, the rate of cancer 7 times higher, and the rate of developmental challenges 11 times higher.

Sangeetha, 32 years old, and her two children, ages 11 and 8, are three of the faces of those statistics. Her husband died suddenly of cancer at the age of 36 after the family's savings were decimated for his treatment.

Lavanya, a 17 year old girl with severe mental challenges, is another example. Her father works in the nuclear plant. Lavanya was born healthy before having seizures a few days after birth, resulting in abnormal brain growth.

Human Rights Advocacy and Research Foundation helps families like Sangeetha's to find work, pay school fees, and arrange childcare. HRAF also supports Dr. Pugazhendhi's local health clinic and helps pay medical costs for children like Lavanya.

We are thankful our gifts for Mission & Service support this work. Please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith.

*Loving God, we are called to be your colours
in the world to walk with each other, to share in love
through our gifts for Mission & Service.
Guide us to shine brightly in the world. Amen*