

harcourt

An Affirming Ministry

March 15, 2020 10:30 a.m.

MINISTERS: The People with ... Miriam Flynn and Jim Ball

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY: Alison MacNeill

VU—Voices United

Lent 3

MV—More Voices



~ Please speak with an usher if you would like to use a hearing assist device. ~

WORDS OF WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

HANDBELL CHOIR Come My Way, My Truth, My Light
R. Vaughan Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: You who gather,
remember ancient wisdom:

**All: “The day of my spiritual awakening
was the day I saw— and knew I saw—
all things in God and God in all things.”**

One: You who gather,
imagine that such connection exists.
Imagine that divinity links us to everyone and everything.
What does such imagining say to our divisions and fears?

**All: We remember and imagine.
We worship mindful of this ancient faith.
We pray to see, and live as though we see,
a world of love and acceptance.
We would reach out afresh,
with respect and understanding,
and be not afraid.**

One: Let us worship together now!

SONG Shadow and Substance

GATHERING PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER SONG Return to God *Marty Haugen*

Return to God with all your heart,
the source of grace and mercy;
come seek the tender faithfulness of God.

READING Acts 11:1-18

SONG MV 145 Draw the Circle Wide

ENGAGING THE STORY *Paul Miller*

OFFERING AND DEDICATION

CHOIR SONG How Different Can We Be? *Ruth Elaine Schram*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

SONG MV 138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines

BLESSING

Today’s bulletin is sponsored by Lorraine Macpherson in loving
memory of her husband Bruce.

Thanks to all who participated in today’s service!

We leave this space today to live out our hope in the world.
As we go, there is an opportunity to enjoy **coffee or tea**, hosted
by Marta and Malcolm Coutts, and **conversation** with friends in
the **Gymnasium** downstairs. Blessings! Go with God!

How Different Can We Be? *Ruth Elaine Schram*

Many grains of sand make the shoreline;
Many drops of water make the sea;
Many flowers make the garden;
Many threads, a tapestry.

Spread across this planet that we all share,
Many types of faces I can see;
Many lands and many nations;
But, how different can we really be?

Kept apart by fences or walls,
Separated by geography;
Still our hearts can sense we are all
many parts of the whole human race.
How different can we really be?

How many stones it takes to make a mountain!
Many stars to make a galaxy;
Many trees to make a forest;
Many notes, a symphony.

With our many neighbours so far away,
Still we find we meet on common ground;
We dream, we fly, we laugh and we cry.
The more we learn, the more we've found.

One world, one human race,
Room for individuality.
Though we represent different places,
How different can we be?