

Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street ♦ St. John's, NL A1C 3L7



May 14th, 2017 135th Anniversary

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GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

PRELUDE:

***INTROIT: Mother and God**

M.T. Winter

***WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

CELEBRATORY MUSIC # MV 122: This Is the Day

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!

Singing halelu, singing halelu, singing halelu!

We will rejoice and be glad.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Gather us in, Lord, and hear our prayers.

We have come to this place in need for healing and hope.

Gather us in, Lord, and heal our spirits.

We come here seeking guidance and strength.

Gather us in, Lord, and open our hearts to receive your word.

Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to comprehend your word and follow you faithfully.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

When the journey is hard

strength is failing, we lose the path, stumble or fall,

You raise us up,

refresh, encourage, give hope.

You enable us to continue on our way,

climb mountains or simply follow day by day. Amen.

***HYMN MV # 1: Let Us Build a House**

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,

a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,

rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

You call us to follow and our footsteps falter,
reach out your hand and we treat you as stranger,
whisper our name and we simply ignore you.
Gracious God,
slow to anger, swift to bless,
forgive us, restore us.
Grant us hearts that stand firm,
a faith that is strong and a hope that endures. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

The stone is rolled away—we are released!
The tomb is empty – we can be free!
Christ is risen!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN # 904 refrain:**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

***HYMN # 320: Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth**

GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Eternal God,
In the reading of scripture, may your Word be heard;
In the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known;
In the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.

PSALM 42 pg. 766VU: As The Deer

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 17:1 - 8

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM:

SERMON: “And When They Lifted Their Eyes”

***HYMN: Our Dreams**

Words by: Heather McMaster, Tune: Ash Grove (#242)

Our dreams we are dreaming, on God we are leaning
while seeking His guidance, His purpose, and plan.
A church in transition, a change in our vision
has shown us, in truth, that together we can –
we can make the choices, to join all our voices
and build a new vision and dream a new dream.
With prayer and persistence we're going the distance
A challenge accepted to follow God's scheme.

Our footsteps may falter yet we will not alter
The path we have chosen, the future we see
To help one another and care for each other
In prayer and in worship that binds you and me.
We strive through our sorrow and reach for tomorrow
To build a new family, to build a new home
Our church in the future will stand as the Centre
With grace and with guidance, we are not alone.

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN # 580: Faith of Our Fathers**

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

**Holy God, Dreamer of dreams,
We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people,
this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your
purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be
willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to
break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry
you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your
Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do
all that you call us to do. Amen.**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: May the Grace F.K. Graham

POSTLUDE