



# Strathmore United Church

## January 17, 2021

### Words of Welcome and announcements:

**Psalm:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

### Lighting of the Candles:

**Centering Song:** Where Two or Three Are Gathered \*MV#14  
Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there, I am there.

### Call to Worship:

L: God's light calls us together.

**P: We gather as community to seek healing, forgiveness, and truth.**

L: Christ's actions guide us.

**P: By following his way and example, we become his hands and feet in this world.**

L: The Spirit watches over us,

**P: Providing assurance and support as we seek to walk in God's light, and follow Christ's actions.**

**♪♪ Hymn:** As With Gladness Men of Old \*VU #81

1 As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright,  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore your splendour see.

2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
to that lowly manger bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
Christ, whom heaven and earth adore;  
so may we with eager pace  
ever seek your throne of grace.

**Gathering Prayer:**

**Come to us, Holy God, as we gather before you; encircle us with your love. Bless us with your sustaining presence; surround us with your grace. Draw us 'round your living Word, and bind us to one another as disciples of Christ, whose Spirit is in our midst. Amen.**

**♪♪ Hymn: Bless Now, O God, The Journey \*VU #633**

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey  
that all your people make,  
the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert  
and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters,  
the road where faith is found.**
  
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
who share this winding way,  
whose hope burns through the terrors,  
whose love sustains the day.  
We yearn for holy freedom  
while often we are bound.  
Together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.**

**Scripture and Message: The Beatitudes Matthew 5:1-12**

**♪♪ Hymn: O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word \*VU #84**

- 1 O radiant Christ, incarnate Word,  
eternal love revealed in time:  
come, make your home within our hearts,  
that we may dwell in light sublime.**

2        **Our bartered, busy lives burn dim,  
too tired to care, too numb to feel.  
Come, shine upon our shadowed world:  
your radiance bathes with power to heal.**

**Minute for Mission:**

**The Offering:**

**♪♪ Sung Dedication:** As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought  
verse 3 \***VU#518**

**With gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best to you,  
not just to serve your cause, but share  
your love with neighbours too.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your son,  
help us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.**

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**♪♪ Hymn** Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying \***VU#400**  
**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy  
kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into  
temptation, and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**♪♪ Hymn: A Light is Gleaming \*VU #82**

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms  
throughout the night, living in the light.  
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love  
is burning bright, living in the light.**

- 1 When light comes pouring into the darkest place,  
it hurts our eyes to see the glow.  
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,  
our memories and tears. R**
- 2 When night is round us and every shadow grows,  
a star is there to light our way.  
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:  
'God's light will ever stay.' R**

**Commissioning and Blessing:**

**Choral Response: I Am Walking a Path of Peace \*MV #221**

**I am walking a path of peace,  
I am walking a path of peace,  
I am walking a path of peace,  
Lead me home,  
Lead me home.**

**Giving and Receiving the 'Peace of Christ':**

Phone, email –connect with someone today and share the  
Peace of Christ.

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