

Dunsford United Church
January 14, 2024 – Second after Epiphany
Presider: Rev. Anne Hepburn

†= stand as you are able

WELCOME AND CELEBRATIONS (Birthdays/Anniversaries, etc.)

† GATHERING HYMN: VU #96 “Will You Come and See the Light” (Brian Wren)

- 1 Will you come and see the light from the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star, it will show you who you are;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?
- 2 Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed there's a longing to be freed;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?
- 3 Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised, and the innocent abused,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?
- 4 Will you join the hope, alight in the young girl's eyes,
of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?
- 5 Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about is too dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION CANDLE

Each Sunday morning, we gather around this candle, a symbol of Christ. This ritual brings focus to our time of worship; a time when we pause to renew our faith and spiritual life with our Creator.

May the light shine, gathering us in and bringing us to a place of calm and shalom.

Written by Jim McKean, Gatherings 2023-4, p. 42. Used with permission.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LANDS (Unison)

We acknowledge, honour and respect this land and the Anishinaabe / Mississauga peoples with whom Treaty 20, Williams treaty, was signed, on the lands where we are. We acknowledge and give thanks for the lands and people of treaties and unceded territories of all who are worshipping. It is up to all of us to live into truth, respect and reconciliation with all our relations.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come with me.

We receive the Jesus words in times of great joy.

Come with me.

We receive the Jesus words in times of stress and difficulty.

Come with me.

We receive the Jesus words when they are the last words we want to welcome.

Come with me.

We receive the Jesus words addressed to our church.

Come with me.

We receive the Jesus words.

We take them to heart and we faithfully go to work.

Written by David Sparks Gatherings 2023-4 p. 42. Used with permission.

† HYMN: VU #567 "Will You Come and Follow Me" (The Iona Community)

- 1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
- 5 Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison):

**God of the Cosmos, out of the mystery of your love and grace,
the right combination of elements and heat have burst forth to become
stars and planets, and we, amazed, are part of this wonder, formed of
stardust.**

**As you guided the magi to the living light by the light of the heavens, guide
our lives that we might draw nearer to your presence.**

Grant us the wisdom to bow before your mystery offering our gifts and rejoicing in the blessing we have found.

Written by the Sudbury Presbytery Writing Team, Gatherings 2023-4, p.39. Used with permission.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

INVITATION TO GIVE: Let us bring forward the offering.

† HYMN OF DEDICATION: VU #96 v 5 (Brian Wren)

Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about is too dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We discover Jesus, friend and sibling,
In all our neighbours near and far away.
May we reflect your love and grace, O God,
And through these gifts, of time and money,
Do for others all we would do for Jesus. Amen
Written by George Allan, Gatherings 2023-4, p. 39. Used with permission.

STORY AND PRAYERS FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

What are We Called to Be?

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament 1 Samuel 3:1-10 God calls Samuel

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"^[a] and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

New Testament John 1:43-51 Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I

saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.”⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”⁵⁰ Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.”⁵¹ And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you,^[a] you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

† HYMN: VU #509 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” (Daniel L. Schutte)

- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
R Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *R*

- 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *R*

MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

WE ARE SENT OUT IN FAITH TO SERVE

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

Now may the peace and promises of our God go with you.

May the Alpha and Omega – your beginning, end and eternal home, guide and strengthen you.

Go in peace and love in the name of Christ. Amen

Written by Elaine Bidgood-Sveet, Gatherings 2023-4, p. 39. Used with permission.

† CHORAL RESPONSE: "Go Now in Peace" (Words: D Besig and N Price)

Go now in peace, never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen, Amen, Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder to all Board Team Leaders: 2023 year-in-review reports are due **on** or before Wed. January 31st, 2024. Please send as a Word document (not as a PDF) or in the body of an email to: dunsfordunitedchurch@bellnet.ca

Milk bag Mats: The group will be back in the Church on Wed. Jan. 17th at 10 AM. All are welcome to make mats and enjoy some fellowship. Speak with Shirley Wilkinson if you can volunteer.

November Financials:

Income: \$4,717 (\$408.74 to Memorial Fund)

Expenses: \$5,868.94

Net Loss: \$1,151.94

Stewardship Second: Have you heard God calling? Do not let God's words fall to the ground—with a generous heart, seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

[E-ssentials: Additional Questions about Remit 1, Rally for the Water Defenders Release, and more! \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

DUNSFORD UNITED CHURCH

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