

**Visions United Spirit Gathering**  
**March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 - Lent 4**

**Our Community Gathers**

**Welcome**

*God's Doors Are Open to All!*  
*Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts*

Visions United seeks to be a safe place for people of all  
 races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds,  
 sexual orientations and gender identities to worship.

**Acknowledgement of Place**

We remember with gratitude that we live and worship on lands that are,  
 by law, the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq.  
 May we live with respect on this land,  
 and in peace and friendship with its peoples.

**Peace**

One: Peace be with you.  
 All: **And also with you.**

**Invitation to Gather & Lighting of your Christ Candle**

*Light your candle, and join in these words:*

Inviting spirit into Spirit  
 Gathering light into Light  
 Calling love into Love  
 Here I am - here we are -  
 in the presence of the One who said,  
*"I am the Light".*

**Song**

MV#28 God of the Bible (v.1&2, *refrain*, v.4&5, *refrain*) Words: Sheila Murray © 1996  
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**Sharing our WOW Moments**

**Gathering Breath Prayer**

Written by Bob Root, Gathering L/E 2020, p.30. Used with permission.

**Sung Centering Prayer**

VU#411 O God We Call (*repeat 2x*) Words/Music: Linnea Good ©1994,  
 Borealis Music. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission ONE LICENSE A - 720804

O God we call  
 O God we call  
 from deep inside we yearn,  
 from deep inside we yearn,  
 from deep inside we yearn for you.

**We Listen for Wisdom**

**Wisdom Reading**

John 9:1 - 41

(*Readers: Glenna & Peter Lightfoot*)

**Reflection**

## Lenten Invitation to Conversation - Week 4

*Each week at Visions we are offered an invitation to conversation as a spiritual practice.*

### **John 9: 1-41 The Healing of One Born Blind who encounters Jesus**

This blind person encounters the Divine, receives 'sight',  
and sees - *physically and spiritually* - more clearly.

Even in these days of 'social distancing' we encounter the Divine - the Spirit of Christ -  
in each other and in our world.

May we, like the one born blind, see this presence more clearly.

This week, at the end of each day, write down the ways and the people  
who helped you encounter the Divine.

Offer a prayer of gratitude.

**Special Music**      Amazing Grace      (Soloist: Christine MacLeod)

Words: John H. Newton © 1779. Public Domain.

### **We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer**

#### **The Community at Prayer**

*A prayer during times of COVID-19 by the Right Rev. Richard Bott, our Moderator.*

<https://www.united-church.ca/prayers/prayer-during-times-covid-19>

### **We Go Forth to Be a Blessing**

**Changing of the Light and Blessing**      *Adapted from a blessing by Rev. Jane Aikman, March 8, 2020*

One: The light changes.

It leaves this candle and spreads out to each of us, and so . . .

**All: we go bravely back from this time of prayer  
to our lives and the concerns of the world  
knowing that we are empowered by the Spirit  
to say "Yes!" to Life,  
to live Love,  
and to deepen our conversations with God  
and with one another.**

**Song** Joy Be In Thy Heart (2x)

Words/Music: Paul Rumbolt © 2011

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Joy be in thy heart  
Peace be in thy spirit  
Compassion be thy journey  
Love be in thee

Joy be in my heart  
Peace be in my spirit  
Compassion be my journey  
Love be in me

***Thank You for Joining Us!***

***May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.***