

Visions United Spirit Gathering
Lent 1 - February 21th, 2021
A Covenant of Promise

Our Community Gathers

Prelude Rainbow Connection / Over the Rainbow *Daphna Pearson*
 Words/Music: Paul Williams & Kenneth L. Ascher
 Harold Arlen & E.Y. Harburg. © 1938. All rights reserved.

Video Invitation to Keep Lent "Bless This Mess"

Welcome & Lighting of the Christ Candle

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.

Song MV#27 Creator God *Lead: John Foster, with whistle*
 Words/Music: Judith Snowden © 2004. Used with permission of composer.

Gathering Words

Remember God's presence in times of challenge and temptation (*purple*)
 Remember God's covenant to be with us always (*blue*)
 Remember God's creation and all that leads to life (*green*)
 Remember God's gift of healing love (*yellow*)
 Remember God's promise of forgiveness (*orange*)
 Remember Jesus, who lived and died and lives again (*red*)

Prayer for Healing and Confession

Here we are, faithful God:
 beloved, flawed, beautiful, failing,
 and trying again to be your people in the world.
 Forgive the wrongs we have done,
 and the good we have left undone.

- *Silent prayer* -

Remind us of your eternal promise
 reflected in the bow in the sky
 that Love surrounds us
 through all the turnings and seasons of our lives.
 In joy and in sorrow
 in pandemic and fear
 in desert and flood
 in life, in death, in life beyond death,
 we trust You are with us.
 We are not alone. Thanks Be!

Promise of Forgiveness and Grace

MV#90 Don't Be Afraid (2x) *Lead: Joan Hawkes, harmony/hand chimes; Daphna & John Pearson*
 Words: John L. Bell & Graham Moule. Music: John L. Bell © 1995,
 2007 by WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, Inc
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

We Listen for Wisdom

Introducing Our Lenten Theme

God's Covenants

Brian Botten

Scripture Genesis 9: 8-17

Reflection

Shawn Redden

Silent Reflection (*visual montage of rainbows*)

Reading Finding God in the Rainbow (*unison*)

adapted, ©2021 Spill the Beans Resource Team

Finding God in the rainbow
no matter where we are:
living through the pandemic,
living through climate change,
living through the wilderness,
finding God in the rainbow.

Finding God in the rainbow
no matter who we are:
celebrating diversity in creation,
celebrating hope in solidarity,
celebrating promise of Love's presence,
finding God in the rainbow.

Finding God in the rainbow
no matter what we do:
bringing peace to a chaotic world,
bringing light to a searching world,
bringing joy to the suffering world,
finding God in the rainbow.

Finding God in the rainbow
no matter how we think:
this is God who cares for us,
this is God who walks with us,
this is God who values us all.
Let us find God in the rainbow.

We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

Song

MV#165 There Is a Time (vs. 3, 4&5) *Lead: Joan Hawkes, Anna & Bill Peters, John & Daphna Pearson (rhythm) & Kim & Brian Affleck (guitar).*
Words/Music: Carolyn McDade. Arr: Lydia Pedersen © 2006.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

Our Community at Prayer

Brian Botten

Sharing of WOW moments

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

Blessing and Changing of the Light

Song VU#639 One More Step (vs. 1, 3&4)

Lead: Anna & Bill Peters, Joan Hawkes, Ainsley MacTavish-Hawkes, John & Daphna Pearson, Kim & Brian Affleck (guitar), John Foster (banjo)
Words/Music: Sydney Carter © 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

Thank You for Joining Us!
May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.