

Visions United Spirit Gathering
March 6, 2022
Good Enough: Embracing the Imperfections of Life and Faith
Lent 1: "Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy"

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music / Prelude

We Will Stand / Standing on the Promises of God

Daphna Pearson, Piano

We Will Stand: Music: James Hollihan ©1983 WORD MUSIC.

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Standing on the Promises: Music: R. Kelso Carter

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Land

Brian Botten

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.

Sharing of WOW moments

Brian Botten

Lighting of Christ Candle

Brian Botten

Gathering Good Enough

Shawn Redden

Song Good Enough (2x)

Lead: Visions Choir

Words/Music: Marcia McFee, Marsha Moors-Charles & Chuck Bell

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What in our lives do we dream about
 for tomorrow, void of sorrow?
 Time spent regretting decisions
 of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?
 Sometimes we get what we get,
 Life disappoints us and yet,
 God is still here and somehow,
 this faith is good enough.

Calling on God *(based on Psalm 91)*

Holy One, Our Refuge and Shelter,
 we call out to you,
 sometimes in praise, sometimes in distress—as life goes.
 Whether we perceive it or not, you are there.
 Open us this day to your presence
 in the smile of a friend, in the call of a bird—
 in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days.
 Amen.

We Listen for Wisdom

Song

MV#104 Know that God is Good *(English, French, Swahili, English)* Lead: Anna Peters

Words/ Music: Trad. Congo; Arrangement Edo Bumba ©2005. French © David Fines.

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Theme Conversation for All Ages

Shawn Redden

(Children leave for program)

Instrumental of song while they leave

Wisdom Reading

Luke 4:1-13

Brian Botten

Honest Questions, Compassionate Response

What are the temptations that catch your ear, singing out promises that your life should be more special than it is? What if ordinary life is already holy—as is?

Silent Reflection

Special Music

On Eagle's Wings (Psalm 91)

(Verses - Choir; Chorus - Congregation)

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Chorus:

"And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of my hand."

Reflection

Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

An Invitation to Generosity

(Offering is brought forward)

Gathering at the Table & Sharing the Peace

One: Peace of Christ Be With You!

All: And Also With You.

Invitation to the Table

One: Christ looks upon each one with love and says,

All: "you are welcome at my table."

One: Christ looks upon each one with compassion and says,

All: "whatever troubles you, bring it here."

One: Christ looks upon each one with grace and says,

All: "whatever you'd like to leave behind, do it here."

(Invitation continues)

Song MV 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am *(v.1, English; v.2, French)*

Words: John L. Bell & Graham Maule

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Great Thanksgiving

One: The Holy Living God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to God!

One: Let us give thanks to our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Thanksgiving Prayer continues and ends with:

One: And so, together we sing our praise:

All: *(sung)*

Holy, holy, God of Hosts!

Heav'n and earth sing out your name!

Blest are they who come today;

and take their place.

The Story of Jesus at Table & Words of Institution

One: *prayer continues and ends with:*

And so,

We remember...

We offer ourselves ...

We proclaim God's time...

All: *(sung)*

Christ has died, yet Christ is ris'n;

Christ will come once again!

We remember and proclaim

redeeming love.

Prayer of Intercession and Prayer for the Spirit

Sung Response MV 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am *(v.1, English; v.2, French)*

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Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

As we meditate on music,

our servers will serve you bread and a grape, fruit of the vine.

Please wait and we will share the elements after everyone has been served.

Prayer after Communion

Announcements

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

Changing of the Light and Blessing

Song VU#639 One More Step *(vs. 1-4)*

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Benediction

*Sung: God is still here and somehow,
this faith is good enough.*

Postlude Music for the Journey