

Visions United Spirit Gathering
Lent 2 – March 5, 2023
seeking: honest questions for deeper faith
How do we begin again?

* *Stand as able*

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music/Prelude

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 Land

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sharing the Peace & Lighting Peace Candle

Sharing of WOW Moments

Invitation to Gather *How do we begin again? (Poem Video)*

A Seeking Prayer

adapted: prayers by Rev. Sarah Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC @sanctifiedart.org

One: What is it like to begin anew?
 All: It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.
 It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.
 It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.
 It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.
 One: We come today with our biggest questions:
Side A: Who are we?
Side B: What do you need from us?
Side A: Where are you?
Side B: How can we follow you more clearly?

A Moment for Silent Pondering...

One: We pray, may we find God in our seeking
 All: May we learn as we go.
 May we be brave enough to begin anew,
 and live into the questions we bring to you,
 May it be so. Amen.

Promise of Grace for the Journey

(Children's program begins)

We Listen for Wisdom

Introducing our Community Art Creation

seeking: honest questions for a deeper faith

Song VU#356 Seek Ye First (*replace 'Hallelujah' with 'Amen'*)

Words/Music: Karen Lafferty ©1972 Maranatha Music
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A -720804

Reflection

Wisdom Reading John 3:1-17

Reflection & Conversation

Live the questions now.
Perhaps then, someday
far in the future,
you will gradually,
without even noticing it,
live your way into the answer."

- Rainer Maria Rilke, Letters To A Young Poet.

Song VU#411 O God We Call (2x)

Words/Music: Linnea Good ©1994 Borealis Music
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A -720804

Reflection I wonder...

Music Reflection

In a Land of the Seeking Music/lyrics/vocals: Spencer LaJoye;
acoustic guitars: Spencer LaJoye and George Clements; double bass: Charles Clements.
Mixed and mastered: Michael Harmon, Wachusett Recording.
Song commissioned by A Sanctified Art LLC @sanctifiedart.org

Video: Lisle Gwynn Garrity, creator; featuring art by: Lauren Wright Pittman,
Hannah Garrity, Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Denise Anderson, and Carmelle Beaugelin @sanctifiedart.org

We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

Our Community at Prayer

Invitation to Generosity & Sharing of Our Gifts

The Work of the Congregation - Announcements

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

Song MV#216 Wherever You May Go

Words/Music: David Kai ©1996
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A -720804

Changing of the Light and Blessing

Postlude Music for the Journey

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