

**Visions United Spirit Gathering**  
**Worship Leader: Trudy Colpitts**  
**Music Director: Martha Shaw**  
**November 12, 2023**  
**24<sup>th</sup> After Pentecost**

**Our Community Gathers**

*\*Stand as you are able*

**Gathering Music/Prelude**

Martha Shaw

**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 live in peace and friendship with its peoples.**

**\*Song** MV #28 God of the Bible (Fresh as the Morning)  
 (vs. 1, Ref, vs 4, Ref, vs 5, Ref)

*Words: Shirley E. Murray©1996 Hope Publishing Co.*  
*Music: Tony E. Alonso©2001 GIA Publications.*  
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**Invitation to Gather & Lighting the-Christ Candle**

**Kindling a Flame for Peace**

**Sharing the Peace**

ONE: The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: **And also with you.** Amen

**Sharing of WOW moments**  
**Time for all Ages**

**\*Song** VU #299 Teach Me, God, to Wonder (all vs)

*Words: Walter Farquharson©1973 Walter Farquharson*  
*Music: Ron Klusmeir©1974 Ron Klusmeir*  
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**(Children's program begins)**

## We Listen for Wisdom

**Special Music** Put Peace into Each Other's Hands Words: Fred Kaan, 1989 Music: Ron Klusmeier ©2004 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A – 720804

### Wisdom Readings

**Psalm 78: 1-7 (VU p. 792 Part One)**

**Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18**

**Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13**

**Reflection** **BE PREPARED**

## We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

**\*Song** VU#589 Lord, Speak to Me (all vs)

Wors: Frances R. Havergal, 1872

Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1872

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### Our Community at Prayer

..in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray... *Our Father... Amen.*

Written by: Curtis Tufts, Saltcoats-Brendenbury-Churchbridge PC, SK  
Gathering Summer / Autumn 1999 page29-30. Used with permission.

### Invitation to Generosity & Blessing of Our Gifts

(Gifts brought forward)

**Dedication:** MV#79 Spirit, Open My Heart (refrain)

Words: Ruth Duck ©1996 Pilgrim Press Music: Traditional melody, Ireland; arr. Arthur G. Clyde ©1997 Pilgrim Press

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### Offering Prayer

**Respond:** We pray in the name of the giving Christ. Amen

Written by: Laura J Turnbull, 2002

Gathering, Worship for all Season II  
page 239. Used with permission.

### The Work of the Congregation – Announcements

## We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

**\*Song** VU #672 Take Time to be Holy

Words: William D. Longstaff ca. 1882

Music: George C. Stebbins 1890

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### Changing of the Light

#### Blessing

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;

God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen

From CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE  
pg. 72 (attributed to St. Patrick 5th Century) 0Y002  
Voices United #430

### Postlude Music for the Journey

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