

**Visions United Spirit Gathering**  
**February 11, 2024**  
**Finding Our Story Again: *Uncommon Boldness***

\* *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.**

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

**Kindling a Flame for Peace & Sharing of the Peace**

**Sung Prayer** (*seated*)      A Companion on the Road (2x)      Words: Sheila Megill; Music: Ron Klusmeier  
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Draw a breath. -- Say a prayer. --  
 Now look around, see that someone else is there.  
 Take a hand. Share the load.  
 It's good to have --- a companion on the road. ---  
 It's good to be --- a companion on the road.

**Gathering Prayer**

One: In caring for one another,

**All: may we be untiring.**

One: In challenging one another,

**All: may we be respectful.**

One: In sheltering one another,

**All: may we be strong.**

One: In holding one another,

**All: may we be tender.**

One: In the expectations we have for one another,

**All: may we be realistic.**

One: In the songs we sing with one another,

**All: may we seek harmony.**

One: And in loving one another,

**All: may we be all these things and more.**

One: As we seek to hold faith with one another.

**All: We pray. Amen.**

## Sharing of WOW moments

### Introduction to Wisdom Story

#### Wisdom Story

The Story of Exile and Return  
*A Godly Play® Story by Jerome W. Berryman*  
 (2 Kings 25; 2 Chronicles 36:13-23; Ezra and Nehemiah)

*Children leave for programming*

#### Special Music

We Are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light

*Traditional Zulu Song*

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#### Reflection Finding Our Story Again – Uncommon Boldness

#### Words of Affirmation

We are a spiritual community,  
 daring to make a difference  
 one act of kindness at a time.

We value uncommon boldness:

Daring to let faith – not fear – guide our actions and decisions.

Unrelenting confidence to try new things and leave behind what's not working.

Celebrating our faith with infectious laughter, spontaneity, and humour.

Unwavering resilience in the face of challenge:

Our path may not lead where we expected,

but we have faith we are going in the right direction.

May it be so.

### We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

#### Song

MV#150 Spirit God, Be Our Breath

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### Our Community at Prayer

#### Invitation to Generosity & Blessing of Our Gifts *(Gifts brought forward during singing)*

#### Song

MV#187 We Give Our Thanks (2x)

Words & Music: traditional song, trans. David Fines ©2006  
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Re-a-mo le-bo-ga

We give our thanks to God

Nous ren-dons grâce à Dieu

We give our thanks to God!

### The Work of the Congregation – Announcements

#### We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

\*Song *(standing)* MV#142 Oh, A Song Must Rise

Words/Music: Paul B. Svenson

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### Blessing & Changing of the Light

### Postlude Music for the Journey

*Thank You for Joining Us!*

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