

Visions United Spirit Gathering
Lent 4 – March 10, 2024
Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter
I'm Fixed Upon It

* 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

Kindling a Flame for Peace & Sharing the Peace

One: Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.

Sharing of WOW Moments

Special Music Come Walk With Me

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Invitation to Gather

One: On our best days,
All: **God is with us.**
One: On our worst days,
All: **God is with us.**
One: When life is consistent,
All: **God is good.**
One: And when life turns on its head,
All: **God is good.**
One: Day and night, Monday through Sunday,
All: **God is with us. God is good. God is love.**
One: We gather in God's presence.

Introduction of the Theme

Prayer of the Wandering Heart (unison)

Holy God, we often find ourselves wandering through a world
that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "*This should not happen!*"
 We want to control things beyond our reach.
 We long to hold your world in our hands.
 Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations
 instead of curiosity.
 Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.
 Forgive us for clinging to one truth instead of opening up to many.
 Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.
 With hope in our hearts we pray. May it be so.

Promise of Grace

Song (*standing*) VU#649 Walk With Me (vs 1,2,4) Words/Music: John S. Rice©1988;
 arr. John Fluker. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

Theme Conversation Our icon for this week (by Martha Shaw)
invitation to the Children's Centre in Grand Room

We Listen for Wisdom

Centering Song (*seated*) MV#85 Take, O Take Me as I Am (2x) Words & Music: John Bell ©1995;
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Video Reflection Figuring out Faith with Peter – I'm Fixed Upon It

Wisdom Reading Matthew 16:21-23

Reflection

Poem Open Hands (read by Anna Peters) by Rev. Sarah A. Speed©
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We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

Song (*standing*) VU#120 O Jesus, I Have Promised (vs 1,2,4) Words: John E. Bode 1866
 Music: James W. Elliott 1874. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

Our Community at Prayer

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

Sung Dedication VU#538 For the Gift of Creation Words & Music: Steve Garnaas-Holmes
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The Work of the Congregation – Announcements

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

***Song** (*standing*) VU#639 One More Step (vs1-4) led by John Foster on the Banjo
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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.