

## Visions United Spirit Gathering

May 5, 2024 Easter VI

Opening Doors

\* *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 the Christ Candle

#### Sharing the Peace & Kindling a Flame for Peace

One: Peace of Christ be with You

**All: And also with You**

#### Sharing of WOW Moments

\***Song** MV#1

Let Us Build A House

Words & Music: Marty Haugen;

French trans. David Fines©1994 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

#### Opening Sentences – *Based on John 15:12-15*

One: Jesus gives us a new commandment:

**Many: “Love one another as I have loved you.”**

One: When we love one another as Jesus has loved us, we will live lives full of joy.

**Many: We will live with God’s love deep in our hearts.**

One: Let us worship the one who shows us how to love.

**Many: Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!**

#### Gathering Prayer (in unison)

**Loving God, we remember Jesus’ commandment to love one another as he has loved us.**

**That’s the simple, hard truth of our faith: Love. May this time of prayer and reflection remind us of the love we have in Jesus. As we gather in this sacred space, may we be filled with joy as we share his love with others. Amen.**

## We Listen for Wisdom

### Theme Conversation for All Ages or Children's Time

**Song** MV#150 Spirit God, Be Our Breath Words & Music: Bruce Harding©1997  
[www.evensong.ca](http://www.evensong.ca) All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804.

### Wisdom Reading(s)

#### Contemporary Wisdom:

The Central Place of Hospitality - Diana Butler-Bass,  
A People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story

**Acts 10:1-29** A Dream to turn the World Upside Down

**Reflection** When Life Takes a Turn

## We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

**Song** VU#623 Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design Words: Nancy C. Dorian  
 ©1992 Unitarian Universalist Assoc Music: C. Hubert H. Parry 1888. ; arr. Michael Fleming.  
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

### Our Community at Prayer

**Invitation to Generosity & Sharing of Our Gifts** (*offering brought forward*)

### Sung Dedication MV#188 I Thank You, Thank You, Jesus

Words&Music: Swahili trad song. English paraphrase and arr. More Voices©2007 UCC.  
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

### The Work of the Congregation – Announcements

## We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

\* **Song** VU#632 (vs 1,2,5) O Blessed Spring Words: Susan Palo Cherwein©1993  
 Music: English melody, adapt. Hal H. Hopson©1972 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.  
 Reprinted under OneLicense.net#720804

### Changing of the Light and Blessing

One: May the freshness of the dawn enliven my spirit,  
 May the rising of the sun enlighten my mind,  
 May the noon-tide of the day warm my heart  
 May the benediction of sunset clothe my being with restfulness. (*William L Wallace/wb*)  
 May it be so.

All: **May it be so with us.**

### Postlude Music for the Journey

*Thank You for Joining Us!*  
*May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.*  
**Worship Leader:** Reverend CatherineGaw