

Lyrics and Prayers: January 29, 2023

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Ralph Connor Memorial United Church

Opening Hymn: Voices United #299

“Teach Me, God, to Wonder”

words: Walter Farquharson, 1973 - music: Ron Klusmeier, 1974

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Children may proceed to Kids' Connection during the singing of this hymn. They will rejoin us later in the service, in time for the anthem.

**1. Teach me, God, to wonder;
teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.**

**Praise to you be given; love for you be lived,
life be celebrated; joy you give.**

**2. Let me, God, be open;
let me loving be;
let your world of people speak to me.**

**Praise to you be given; love for you be lived,
life be celebrated; joy you give.**

**3. Let me, God, be ready;
let me be awake;
in your world of loving my place take.**

**Praise to you be given; love for you be lived,
life be celebrated; joy you give.**

**4. Teach me, God, to know you,
Hear you when you speak,
See you in my neighbour when we meet.**

**Praise to you be given; love for you be lived,
life be celebrated; joy you give.**

-end-

Call to Worship: Matthew 5: 3-13
(New English Bible, responsive)

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,

for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,

for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,

for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called the children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness,
for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things about you falsely on account of me. Rejoice and be glad, because your reward is great in heaven, for they persecuted the prophets before us in the same way.

Chant: *seated*
More Voices #150 - *verses 3 & 4*
“Spirit God, Be Our Breath”

~Bruce Harding~

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**3. Loving God: be our voice,
be our prayer.**

Reaching out, joining hands as we share,

**We seek your guidance through
friendship and care.**

Loving God, be our prayer.

4. Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.

Blow through us, bringing strength
to move on.

Through change, through challenge,

We'll greet the new dawn...

Spirit God, be our song.

-end-

Hymn: Voices United #510
“We Have This Ministry”

~Jim Strathdee~

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**1. We have this ministry
and we are not discouraged,
it is by God's own power
that we may live and serve.
Openly we share God's word,
speaking truth as we believe,
praying that the shadowed world
may healing light receive.
We have this ministry,
O God, receive our living.**

**2. O Christ, the tree of life,
our end and our beginning,
we grow to fullest flower
when rooted in your love.
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,
called to service by your grace,
different cultures, different gifts,
the young and old a place.
We have this ministry,
O God, receive our giving.**

3. The yoke of Christ is ours,
the whole world is our parish,
we daily take the cross,
the burden and the joy.
Bearing hurts of those we serve,
wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,
Holy Spirit, bread and wine,
we die and rise again.
We have this ministry,
O God, receive our loving. *-end-*

Heritage Offertory Hymn:
Voices United #574
“Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love”
Verses 1 and 4

~Robert Walmsley - Adam Watson~

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**1. Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,
Tender and true, tender and true,
Out of the heart of the Father above,
Streaming to me and to you:
Wonderful love, wonderful love
Dwells in the heart of the Father above.**

4. Come to my heart,
O thou wonderful love!
Come and abide, come and abide,
Lifting my life till it rises above
Envy and falsehood and pride:
Seeking to be, seeking to be
Lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

then... Offertory Prayer

Commissioning and Benediction

Closing Hymn: More Voices #33

“Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope”

~traditional, Cameroon~

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**1. Jesus came bringing us hope
Jesus came bringing us hope
Jesus came bringing us hope
Hallelujah, forevermore!**

**2. Jesus came bringing us peace
Jesus came bringing us peace
Jesus came bringing us peace
Hallelujah, forevermore!**

**3. Jesus came bringing us love
Jesus came bringing us love
Jesus came bringing us love
Hallelujah, forevermore!**

4. Jesus came bringing us joy
Jesus came bringing us joy
Jesus came bringing us joy
Hallelujah, forevermore! ~end~

Followed by Moment of Reflection and Postlude