Kindred Spirits Worship January 26, 2025 Third Sunday After Epiphany

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES

One:

Called to live with respect in Creation as Indigenous, Métis, Settler and Newcomer people, we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn and serve, and the water which sustains life on this land, is of God, Creator, and in the farthest reaches of memory was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land, and to their descendants.

One:

With the coming of colonizers, treaties were made, but again and again the colonizers disregarded and broke the treaties, causing grave and lasting harm to the historic caregivers of the land, to the generations that followed them, and to the land itself.

All:

Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation, we who gather here on Treaty One territory commit ourselves to finding faithful ways of honouring the treaties, the land and one another in a spirit of openhearted respect.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT (Epiphany)

The third week of January has been observed as the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sometimes it seems like we have moved beyond Christian Unity. Branches of our own faith have difficulty acknowledging anything in Common. Increasingly our partners are people of other Faiths or no faith. Does Jesus speak only to a Jewish-Christian world? Or does Jesus speak to a Human world? In this Epiphany Season, what do we hear?

Let us Pray:

Creator God, Wrap us in your Spirit and speak to us of the unity of Jesus. Open us to be present with all who struggle, all who are vulnerable, all who are our Brothers and sisters. AMEN

HYMN: VU# 101 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

MOMENT TO PONDER

On Tuesday, in a prayer service at the National Cathedral, the Episcopal Bishop of Washington D.C., The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, issued a plea to the newly inaugurated president to show mercy to "gay, lesbian, and transgender children" from all political backgrounds, some of whom "fear for their lives."

She also called for compassion for immigrants, "the vast majority of whom are good neighbours, and "faithful members of our churches, mosques and synagogues, gurdwara and temples."

It is difficult to kill large numbers of people, or to deport, or imprison, or disadvantage, unless one has made an argument that these people are somehow less that human, less deserving, less valued than others. That Is a huge issue in our social dialogue. Are there people who deserve to be treated without mercy, without compassion, and who are they?

HYMN: VU# 325 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

SCRIPTURE:

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

CHOIR ANTHEM: "This One Thing I Ask of the Lord"

REFLECTION:

HYMN: MV#154 Deep In Our Hearts

OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Doxology VU# 544, In Gratitude and Humble Trust

Let us Pray:

Holy One, bless the gifts we share and the hope we hold so our community and world might be transformed by your Grace.

AMEN

CENTERING MUSIC

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)
AMEN

HYMN: MV#150 Spirit God Be Our Breath

Commissioning

Choral Blessing: VU# 87 (refrain) I am the Light of the World

Postlude