

**Kindred Spirits Worship
Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 1, 2026**

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES

One:

Called to live with respect in Creation
as Indigenous, Métis, Settler, and Newcomer peoples,
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 treaties were broken,
causing deep 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
and the homeland of the Red River Metis
commit ourselves to faithful ways
of honoring the treaties, the land, and one another
in a spirit of open-hearted respect.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Choral Opening MV#12 Come Touch Our Hearts

OPENING STATEMENT

On this Second Sunday in Lent, we journey with Abraham and Sarah as they hear God's call to step into the unknown. We meet Nicodemus, who comes to Jesus in the night, seeking understanding.

Lent invites us into deeper trust — not because we have all the answers, but because God's promise rests on grace. Today we gather to remember that we are loved first, chosen first, and called first — not because of what we do, but because of who God is.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us to journey in faith, as Abraham was called.

All: We lift our eyes to the hills — our help comes from the Lord.

One: God's promise rests not on achievement, but on grace.

All: We come trusting in God's steadfast love.

One: God so loved the world and sent Jesus.

All: We open our hearts to be born anew.

One: Let us worship God.

All: We worship with gratitude and trust.

OPENING PRAYER

Faithful and loving God, you called Abraham into an unknown future, and you met Nicodemus in his searching questions.

Meet us where we are today. Strengthen our trust in your promises. Remind us that your love comes before our effort, your grace before our striving.

Lead us in this Lenten journey and help us live as people who are deeply loved.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

HYMN: VU#634 To Abraham and Sarah

Moment to Ponder

God called Abraham before he had done anything to prove himself. God made a promise based on grace, not performance. In the same way, Jesus told Nicodemus that God so loved the world — not just the faithful, not just the certain, but the whole world. God's love always comes first. Before we understand everything, before we fix our mistakes, before we grow strong in faith, we are already loved and already called.

Lent reminds us that we do not walk this journey trying to earn God's approval. We walk it learning to trust the love that already surrounds us. Like Nicodemus, we may come with questions. Like Abraham, we may not see the full picture. But God's promise remains steady. We are chosen, we are beloved, and we are invited to step forward in faith.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 12:1–4a

John 3:1–17

Lenten Candle Moment - All

Loving Creator, thank you for guiding us on this wilderness journey. We are seeking new life in a world of trouble. Grant that through Jesus' teachings we may find a way even in the darkest times. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

REFLECTION

HYMN: VU#112 Oh God How We Have Wandered

OFFERING INVITATION

God's promise to Abraham was a blessing meant for all the earth. God's love for the world is generous and overflowing. In gratitude for grace freely given, let us offer our gifts and ourselves for God's work of love in the world.

DOXOLOGY: VU#542 We Give You But Your Own

PRAYER OF DEDICATION - All

Gracious God, you bless us so that we may be a blessing. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your promise. Use them to bring hope, welcome, and renewal to your world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CENTERING MUSIC

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - All

Loving God, you are our keeper and our help. We pray for a world in need of healing — for refugees seeking safe harbors, for communities facing climate crisis, for places torn by conflict and fear.

Teach us to care for the earth and for one another, resisting the temptation to claim what belongs to all.

We pray for those who come to you in the night —those with doubts, questions, and quiet fears. Meet them with your patient love.

We pray for this congregation, that we may live as people who know we are beloved.

We lift before you the names spoken aloud and those held in silence... (Silence)

Trusting in your grace that holds us always, we pray through Jesus Christ. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER. Our Father-Mother....

HYMN: VU#288 Great Is Thy Faithfulness vs 1, refrain, 2, 3, refrain

COMMISSIONING

Go now in trust, as Abraham went. Go knowing you are loved, as Nicodemus learned.

Walk in faith. Be a blessing in God's world.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you, now and always. Amen.

CHORAL BLESSING: MV#214 May God's Sheltering Wings

POSTLUDE