

Kamloops United Church

Centre for Community and Spiritual Discovery

Sunday January 5, 2020

Epiphany Sunday

THE GATHERING

Welcome and Moment of Silence

Acknowledgements

Community News

Hymn: When Heaven's Bright with Mystery (verse 1) VU93

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: (adapted from Prayers to Share)

The light of God shines brightly.

This light draws seekers to the Source of all life.

The light of God shines brightly.

This light cuts through the darkness of sin and self-serving.

The light of God shines brightly.

This light gives hope to all who live in the shadow of life.

The light of God shines brightly.

This light is gloriously revealed in the life, death and rising of Jesus Christ.

The light of God shines brightly.

This light shines in you, and in me, and in all of us who follow Jesus Christ.

The light of God shines brightly.

And so we come this day to worship and offer praise to the light of the world. Amen.

Hymn: A Light is Gleaming VU83

Prayer for Grace: (in unison)

God of goodness and light, save us from ourselves and our selfish behaviour. You have blessed us with the peace of Christmas, but we reject your gift in our frantic striving You offer us the way of Christ, but we put him back in the manger as we resume our regular routine. You send your Holy Spirit to lead us, but we block out awareness of your will for us in favour of our own agenda and ambition. Hear us, Holy One, as we come before you with our silent prayer for grace....

(silent prayer)

Gracious God, restore to us the ability to discern and respond to the light you offer. Amen.

Words of Grace

**Chorus: A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,
living in the light.**

**Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.**

THE WORD

Time of Learning

Scripture:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Reflection: "I am the Light of the World
You are the Light of the World"

With other scriptures: Genesis 1: 1-4

John 1: 1-5, 9

John 8: 12

Matthew 5: 14-16

Quiet moment for personal reflection

Hymn:

I Am the Light of the World

VU87

THE RESPONSE

Offering:

(verse 4) VU93

**When heaven's bright with mystery and stars still lead an
unknown way, when love still lights a gentle path where courts
of power can hold no sway, there with the Magi, let us kneel, our
gifts to share, God's world to heal.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Introduction

Passing of the Peace:

The peace and light of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
The Holy One is here. **God's Spirit and Light are with us.**
Lift up your hearts with joy. **We joyfully lift our hearts to God.**
Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give God thanks and
praise.**

Great Thanksgiving Prayer, including Prayers of the People

Holy God of light and love....And so it is that we sing your praise: MV203
**O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!**

Holy God, we praise you.....

And in the power of your life-giving Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (spoken)

Breaking of the Bread

Invitation to the Table

Distribution of the Elements

(before and after receipt of the elements, please join in Singing VU466)

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Prayer after Communion

**Life-giving God, we give thanks that time spent with the Risen Christ
and one another is both gift and grace. May we, who share Christ's
body, live his risen life; may we who drink his cup, bring new life to
others; may we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Amen.**

THE SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn:

Arise, Your Light Is Come

VU79

Commissioning (adapted from a prayer by Rebecca Edmistin-Lange)

One: Jesus, whom we follow, is the Light of the world. We can all be the light of the world if we seek to act in ways that enlarge the realms of loving compassion and justice.

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Men: When we share another's pain or offer a comforting ear to a friend in need,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Women: When we give bread to the hungry or support ways to house the homeless,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Men: When we fight temptation to wrongdoing within ourselves, and treat our neighbours with respect,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Women: When we try to overcome differences with understanding, and solve conflict with peaceful means,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Men: When we look for good in other people in ourselves,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Women: When we do not stay silent in the face of prejudice, but speak our minds truthfully, firmly, but gently,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Men: When we fight despair within ourselves and side with hope,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Women: When we use our powers justly in the service and love for humanity.

ALL: We are the light of the world.

One: When we who follow Jesus, bear witness to his name in all that we do and are,

ALL: We are the light of the world.

Benediction

Departing Chorus: (making eye contact with others)

VU87

YOU are the light of the world,

You people come and follow me.

**If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery,
of what you were meant to do and be.**

WE are the light of the world,

You people come and follow me.

**If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery,
of what you were meant to do and be.**

