

## GATHERING

### Music Prelude

**Introit:**        **Open Our Hearts** (MV21)

Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.  
*(Repeat 3X)*

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**Greeting:**    (Michael Webster)

**Lighting of Christ Candle:** (Darren Wooff – to be read responsively)

This candle symbolizes the flame of the Spirit of Christ who is the light of the world.

**May it also symbolize our calling to be light for the world.**

**Acknowledgement of the First Peoples of the Land and Traditional Territories and Affirming Welcome Statement:** (Gayle Wensley)

**Call to Worship:** (Gayle Wensley – to be read responsively)

We gather this day as Saskatchewan Conference of The United Church of Canada.

**We gather to celebrate ministry in our midst.**

We acknowledge the work of those who are retiring.

**We rejoice with those who are entering into new relationships with the church.**

We remember those who are no longer here to celebrate with us;

**and we remember the ministry of churches that have closed.**

Even so, may it be a time of joy;

**a time to truly celebrate that which has been;**

that which is;

**and that which is yet to be.**

May our hearts be opened by the Spirit

**To perceive new directions for our ministries and our ministers.**

May there be fresh winds that blow into our lives.

**May the breath of the Holy Presence fill our lungs.**

May a fire ignite our very being;

**And may a new Pentecost impel us forward.**

**Opening Prayer:** (Gayle Wensley – to be read in unison)

**Holy Mystery; Divine Love; Creative Spirit:**  
**From the beginning you have animated and enlivened all of creation. You have implanted the spirit of peace and reconciliation in our hearts. May our worship reflect respectfulness, humility, patience, open mindedness and the spirit of grace and forgiveness we have received in Christ Jesus. May we hold one another in prayer this day and always. Amen.**

**HYMN:** **Spirit, Open My Heart** (MV 79)

*Refrain (after each verse):*

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
 As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.  
 Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.  
 All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.  
 In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.  
 In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1994

Music: traditional melody, Ireland; arr. Arthur G. Clyde, 1997

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**Prayer for Transformation:** (Gayle Wensley - to be read responsively)

Amazing Mystery we call God:  
 We have been given all that we need to live in community;  
**yet we find ourselves in a broken world.**  
 We have been given enough so that no one need be hungry or  
 without shelter or clothing;  
**yet we find ourselves in a world divided between those who  
 have and those who have not.**  
 We have been given the gifts of the Spirit that we might be makers  
 of peace and spreaders of joy;  
**yet we find ourselves in a world filled with brokenhearted  
 people and torn apart by war.**

**As we struggle to do what we can to mend the world, we rejoice that we know forgiveness for our faults and that we continue to be offered transformation for our lives. May we have the strength and the wisdom to accept these gifts and to truly be the People of God in this place and time. Amen.**

(Pause for silent reflection)

**Words of Assurance:** (Gayle Wensley – to be read responsively)

The true Good News is that we are surrounded by the God who is Love indeed. When we fail we are lifted up to try again and to keep going. We are never alone for we have the companionship of the Spirit who shares in all of our joys and pains.

**Thanks be to God!**

**In Memoriam: People and Places** (Wendy Gibson)

**HYMN: In the Bulb There Is a Flower** (VU703)

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Words: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Music: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

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## **PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO RETIREES**

Brian Ast  
Bev Diduck  
Noreen Powell  
Ken Schrag

**A Statement of Faith:**

President: As people of faith, I invite you to stand and say together A New Creed.

**All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word  
made flesh, to reconcile  
and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music: Pathway of Hope**  
Words and Music by Joseph Martin  
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**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31 - 34 (Donna Rumpel)**  
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel: John 12: 20 - 28 (Ursula Wiig)**  
This is the Good News of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection:** John Haas

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**Hymn: The Spring Has Come (VU 187)**

The spring has come, let all the church be part of it!  
 The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!  
 New light, new day, new colour after winter grey.  
 New light, new day,  
 the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!  
 The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it!  
 New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ.  
 New leaf, new thrust,  
 the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it.  
 Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it.  
 New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit.  
 New bud, new shoot,  
 the spring has come, new people are the flowers of it!

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 Music: Colin Gibson 1990  
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**Offering: (Gayle Wensley)****The Gifts For and Of God Are Gathered:**

The Offering from this Service of Worship is designated for  
 The Mission and Service Fund of The United Church of Canada

**Dedication of Offering: (Gayle Wensley – to be read in unison)**

**May our giving shine light in the darkness so that we and our  
 world may know the good that is all around us in the creation  
 and in one another. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRIES****HYMN: Come Touch Our Hearts (MV12)**

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,  
 from failing embers build a blazing fire;  
 love strong enough to overturn injustice,  
 to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,  
 your quiet presence all our fears dispel;  
 create a space for spirit to grow in us,  
 let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,  
 set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;  
 help us to open doors of understanding,  
 to welcome truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,  
 and in our weakness your great strength reveal;  
 that we may rise to follow and to serve,  
 steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.

Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,  
 to break the bread and share the cup of peace;  
 that we may love you with our heart, our soul,  
 our mind, our strength, our all, come touch us with your grace.

Words and music: Gordon Light, 2002; arr. Andrew Donaldson, 2002  
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## **RECOGNITION OF DESIGNATED LAY MINISTER**

**Donna Mae Rumpel**

**Laying On of Hands:**

President: *[As candidate kneels]*  
 Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon your servant Donna Mae  
 Rumpel for the continuing office and work of a Designated Lay  
 Minister in your church.

**All: Amen.**

**Presentation of Bible:**

## **ORDINATION**

**Statement:**

**Presentation of Candidate:**

**Ursula Judith Wiig**

President: As part of our celebration today we gather to ordain Ursula Wiig.  
 Presbytery and Conference have examined her and believe that

she is called and equipped to serve as an ordered minister within the Church of Jesus Christ. Do you believe that she is, by God's grace, called and equipped to serve the church?

**All:**            *[in a loud voice]* **By God's grace she is! Glory be to God!**

**Ordination Vows:**

**Laying On of Hands:**

**Ordination:**

**Presentation of Bible:**

### **SERVICE OF THE TABLE**

#### **Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

In the beginning,  
**when God was creating the world,**  
 God separated the darkness and the light,  
**And it was good.**  
 God separated the dry land and the water,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created canola, wheat, mustard, grass, flowers, trees, and every living plant,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created white-tailed deer, buffalo, trout, sturgeon, prairie chickens, and every other living creature of the land, air, and water,  
**And it was good.**  
 God created humanity,  
**And it was good.**  
 God looked at all creation and declared  
**It is very good!**  
 The light of goodness continues to be found  
 in every generation...

...Therefore we raise our voices  
 with all those who have been inspired  
 by the light of goodness  
 that shone in Jesus' life, singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy (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!**

We gather at this table,  
 brothers and sisters in Christ...

...We remember Jesus' death,  
 we celebrate his resurrection  
 we await with hope his coming again,  
 and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Memorial Acclamation (MV204) \***

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
 Christ will come again!  
 Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
 Christ will come again!**

Great Mystery,  
 on this day of celebration  
 we ask you to be with those  
 who have been called to ministry in this church...

...Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 all glory is yours, God most holy,  
 now and forever.

**Great Amen (MV205) \***

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!  
 Hosanna and Amen!  
 Amen, amen, O Holy One,  
 Hosanna and Amen!**

**Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup:**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup:**

**Hymns during Communion:** (to be repeated while receiving the elements)

**We Gather Here (VU469)**

We gather here in Jesus' name,  
 his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;  
 for through the loving son God fashions us as one:  
 Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
 come, share the Lord.  
 No one is a stranger here, - everyone belongs;  
 finding our forgiveness here,  
 we in turn forgive all wrongs.

He joins us here, he breaks the bread,  
 the One who pours the cup is risen from the dead;  
 the One we love the most is now our gracious host:  
 Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
 come, share the Lord.  
 We are now a family of which Christ is the head;  
 though unseen he meets us here  
 in the breaking of the bread.

We'll gather soon where angels sing;  
 we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;  
 now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:  
 Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
 come, share the Lord.

Words: Bryan Jeffery Leech 1984, alt.  
 Music: Bryan Jeffery Leech 1984  
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### **Eat This Bread (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.

Words: Robert J. Batastini and the Taize Community 1982  
 Music: Jacques Berthier 1982  
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## **Post Communion Prayer**

**Great Creator,**

**You welcome us at your table,  
nourish our bodies and souls,  
and bless us as we prepare to go out from this place.  
May we be so transformed by this time together  
and this meal we have shared  
that we are truly beacons of your light, justice, and love  
for one another and the world.  
We pray in Christ's name.  
Amen.**

### THE GOING FORTH

#### **Installation of Conference Executive:**

President, Gayle: Would all of the members of the Executive of Saskatchewan Conference please rise where you are seated. Sisters and brothers of the Conference Executive, let us covenant to work together, in the name of God, to do whatever is required of us as we discharge the duties and responsibilities of the Saskatchewan Conference Executive.

Executive Members: **We do so covenant. Thanks and praise to God.  
Love and joy to the people of God.**

#### **Commissioning and Blessing:** (Gayle Wensley – to be read responsively)

Go out into the world in peace. Be strong and of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Love and serve God rejoicing in the freedom given to you in Jesus the Christ.

And as we go from this place:

**We go, knowing we are held in the arms of God with the  
graceful love of a mother and the tender strength of a father;**

We go, knowing we are not alone, but in the company of Jesus the Christ;

**We go, knowing we are affirmed and upheld in all we do by the  
Comforter, the Holy Spirit;**

We go, in this knowledge and with this blessing, to love and serve others in the name of God.

**Amen.**

#### **Recessional Hymn: Sent Forth By God's Blessing (VU481)**

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended, O now be extended  
 the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
 The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
 shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
 God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us  
 to work for the kingdom and answer its call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
 the tasks of our everyday life we will face.  
 Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
 embracing God's children of each tribe and race.  
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
 unite us as one in this life that we share.  
 Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
 give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Words: Omer Westendorf 1964, alt.

Music: Welsh folk tune; harm. Leland Bernhard Sateren 1972

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## Musical Postlude

***Following the recessional, people are invited to remain for a reception and take the opportunity to greet Donna and Ursula who will be found under a sign that bears their name.***

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Music: traditional melody, England and Ireland

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