

Golden Ears United Church

*Worshipping God, educating and serving in Christ's name,
to help everyone deepen their relationship with God!*

(*)- indicates that the congregation is invited to rise as they are able

January 26, 2020

Third Sunday after Epiphany

***2020 Vision: Seeing and Following
Discipleship in Focus***

God Calls Us Together

Greeting

One: The Peace of Christ be with you all

All: **And also with you**

One: Long before those of us who are settlers, and those of us who are descendants of settlers, came to this land, there were people here. Many nations of people lived—and live—on the land we call Canada, given responsibility by the Creator to be stewards of this land and all that lives on it. We know these first people as the First Nations, the Inuit and the Metis. Today as we gather for worship, let us remember that we worship God on the historic and unceded territory of Coast Salish peoples including the Katzie and Kwantlen First Nations.

All: As Christ's people, let us be people of Love, of Truth, and of Reconciliation

Life & Work of the Community

Welcoming Each Other

Prelude Sacred Bronze

Threshold Moment

Last week we explored Jesus playful invitation in John's Gospel to "Come and See. And this week in Matthew's Gospel, instead of saying "Come and see," Jesus invites some fishermen to respond to his enigmatic call "Follow Me" by dropping everything and following him.

Have you ever had one of those aha moments, an epiphany, that causes you see things differently? Sometimes it's like putting on a new pair of glasses and all of a sudden everything is clearer, sharper, brighter... even your own life.

The disciples who were seen by Jesus as they went about their day – fishing and mending nets must have had their own epiphanies – The moment his call came,

everything changed, the world was turned upside down.
They saw themselves in a new light.
And they dropped everything and followed him

I wonder if they had known what was ahead,
would they have followed him?

That call "Follow Me" has echoed down through the ages
Until it is called out to you.
So what will you do?
Will you drop your nets?
Will you turn and follow him?

Christ Candle is Lit

***Hymn: MV 115**

"Behold, Behold"

Words: John L. Bell
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**Behold, Behold,
I make All things New, beginning with you
and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

OPENING PRAYER

God of light and love,
We can become so accustomed to the darkness,
that your radiant light sometimes overwhelms us.
Open the eyes of our hearts to the light of your dawn,

that our souls may be flooded
with your and mercy and joy.
Open our minds to receive the good news that
we can let go of all of those things that cause us to be
anxious
that we may find rest
in your loving, protective presence.
Open our spirits to follow the path you put before us,
that we may lead lives committed to your Way. Amen.

Adapted from Ministrymatters.com

***Hymn VU 559**

“Come O Fount of Every Blessing”

Words: Robert Robinson
Words © 1987 The Pilgrim Press
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**1 Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.**

**2 Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,**

came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.

3 O, to grace how great a debt
or daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, O, take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.

God Speaks and We Listen

Learning Together

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine

**Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.**

God's Word Speaks to Us

Scripture: Matthew 4: 12-22

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting

a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Hear the witness of God’s People

Thanks be to God

Reflection on the Word

A Time for Silent Reflection

***Hymn: MV 113**

“Jesus Saw Them Fishing”

Words: Ken Canedo
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**1. Jesus saw them fishing by the shore of Galilee,
casting out their nets into the sea.
Simon Peter, Andrew and the sons of Zebedee,
waiting in their boats so patiently.**

Refrain:

**And Jesus said, “Oh, come and follow me.
Oh, leave behind your nets, I call you.
Oh, come and fish with me,
and your life will never be the same again.”**

**2. A rich young person came to Jesus looking for advice.
“How can I obtain eternal life?”**

**Jesus told him, “Honour the commandments of the
Lord.**

Then sell off all your riches for the poor.” R

**3. “If you want to follow me, deny your very self.
Take up your cross and walk the walk with me.
This might seem a hardship, an impossibility,
but nothing is impossible with God.” R**

We Respond to God’s Call

Celebrating God’s Gifts – Offering

Musical Offering - Sacred Bronze

***Offering song: MV 182**

Grateful

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Refrain:

**Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all,
O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,**

we will praise you.

- 2. May our lives proclaim your justice,
may our voices sing your praise.
May our hands work in your service
to the glory of your name. R**

***Prayers of the People and
The Lords Prayer (Sung – VU 959)***

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

God Sends Us Out to Serve the World

***Hymn:VU 563 “Jesus You have Come to the Lakeshore”**

Words: Cesareo Gabarain.
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1 Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore

**looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.**

**O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.**

**2 You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
— you will find there my nets and labour. R**

**3 You need my hands, full of caring
through my labours to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving. R**

**4 You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me. R**

Sending Out

Blessing

*** Hymn MV 209**

Go Make a Diff'rence

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**R Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence.**

**We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

**3 So let your love shine on,
Let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

**R Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**