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March 22, 2015

LENT 5

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.
All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

- * Gathering Hymn MV #44 – *“Shadow and Substance”*

Opening Story

Call to Worship

One: Our stories of faith are not the same.

All: We discover God in our own way, in places special to just us.

One: In the midst of such diversity one thing binds us together.

All: Our God is real. Our God makes our lives and our world rich in all the ways that matter.

One: Let us celebrate our faith in worship!

- * Opening Hymn VU #675 – *“Will Your Anchor Hold”*

Prayer of Approach and Confession

We come to worship you. We call you God, Creator, Mighty, Holy. We see you in mountains and storms and warm breezes. You are there in our embrace of a new baby and in our panic-filled prayers when danger approaches. You manage to be just what we need even if our needs are so different.

Bless us with wisdom to be grateful for the good things that fill our lives. Too often we take credit for your work. Sometimes we attribute luck or fate for the way things turn out. Forgive us for failing to appreciate the power of your work and our faith to transform the world. Be patient as we try to figure out who Jesus is for us. Guide us to a belief that empowers us and feeds our souls. We pray in Christ’s name. AMEN

Words of Assurance

Children’s Time / The Lord’s Prayer

- * Hymn VU #371 – *“Open My Eyes, That I May See”*

The Word

📖 Scripture Reading – Hebrews 5: 5-10
John 12: 20-33

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Anthem – “Unless a Grain of Wheat”

Meditation – “Jesus – ultimate high priest or distracted celebrity?”
(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

The Response

Announcements

- * Offering / Response (VU #389 – vs. 4)

**God of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day’s dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!**

Pastoral Prayer

- * Hymn MV #139 – *“True Faith Needs No Defense”*

- * Benediction / Response

**Go, my friends, in grace,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Where you go, God is there,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Come again, my friends,
To worship and to pray.
Where we meet, God is here,
Benedictus Deus.**

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator
Myrna Hagues, Organist
Pat Dumont, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Laura Steidl, Music Director
Jessica Steidl, Joyful Noise Director
Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Ushers: Bev Baker and Darlene Scott
Greeters: June Kaan and Sylvia Warrington