

Prince Edward North Pastoral Charge  
Wesley United Church    Friendship United Church  
Mountain View            Demorestville  
September 20, 2009

### GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Gathering Hymn    VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy (1<sup>st</sup> verse)  
Welcome and Announcements  
The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn            VU 595            We Are Pilgrims

#### Call To Worship

Friends, we gather to worship God.

**May we come with eyes to see, ears to hear,  
and hands happy to care in God's way.**

#### Opening Prayer

Here we are again, God, back where we belong;  
At home in the circle of love.

**At home in the circle of love.**

Greet us in the centre, hold us in your heart;  
For we are at peace in the circle of love.

**At peace in the circle of love. Amen.**

#### Prayer of Confession

Very often, O God, we think all that makes sense,  
and all that should really concern us, is our present and future  
reality; *our* needs and *our* ambitions.

And despite all good intention – years of church going,  
community service, searching prayer –we return to you  
confessing, even lamenting our inability to see past our own  
noses when it really counts.

**When self-centredness rises like a destructive wave, or  
when the need to be great or first in line blinds us to  
another and pushes them to the outer limits of our care and  
conscience**

#### **Forgive us again, O Holy One.**

Centred in your welcome, playful in your arms, may we find a  
renewed capacity and the hard-fought freedom to be a people of  
warmth, a people of equality, indeed, a people of sheer  
goodness and grace.

**Amen.**

#### **Words of assurance**

From many differing places we come; contrasting ages,  
cultures, histories, opinions, and even beliefs.

Yet, we surely belong to one another in the peace and unity of  
God.

In that peace and through that world-wide unity we are made  
whole, healed, and forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen!**

Hymn            VU 365            Jesus Loves Me

#### Caregivers In Action

#### Children's Time

### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

#### Choir

First Scripture            James 3:13 – 4:3 (The Message)

Second Scripture        Mark 9:30 – 37 (The Message)

#### Sermon

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

Hymn            VU 371            Open My Eyes, That I May See

Offering & Offering Song    "Take These Gifts"

**Take these gifts and let them be  
Used as blessings sent from thee  
Take our lives and use us all  
For your glory and your call.**

Prayers of the People

Hymn      VU 675      Will Your Anchor Hold

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen

Materials for worship today come from *Seasons of the Spirit 2009*; scripture read from NRSV

