



**Worship Service for Stewardship Sunday January 31, 2016**

**GATHERING**

Welcome  
Congregational Singing SJ 44 The love of God  
SJ 32 If you believe and I believe

Call to Worship  
Prayer of Invocation

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Congregational Singing SS 111 For me to live is Christ  
Prayer of Confession  
Scripture Reading Luke 19:1-10  
Sermon Harold Penner "Giving from the Heart"

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

Congregational Singing HWB 383 God whose giving  
Offertory Everett  
Congregational Sharing and Prayer  
Announcements  
Congregational Singing HWB 388 Grant us Lord the grace  
Benediction

Worship Leader: Sunnie  
Song Leader: Darlene  
Pianist: Emily

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Welcome to Harold Penner CFP, Stewardship Consultant for  
Mennonite Foundation of Canada. Harold and his family attend  
St. Vital EMC Church.

**A Call to Worship - Psalm 98**

Come, let us gather to sing to our God,  
and celebrate with songs of praise.

**Listening God, hear all of creation's thankful songs  
as they echo all around the earth.**

Come, all people from the ends of the earth, and sing for joy  
for our God has done wonderful things  
through steadfast love and faithfulness.

**Compassionate God, we joyfully sing because of your acts  
of saving grace and generous mercy.**

Come, let us enter the presence of the Holy One,  
and worship the Triune God who reigns with justice, equity,  
covenants and love for all.

**Together we celebrate the reign of God, who is our  
Faithful Lord, Loving Savior and Spirit of Wisdom.  
Amen.**



**Prayer of Confession**

We fill our lives with the fear of scarcity,  
assuming there is not enough money, time, patience or love.  
We turn away when a stranger asks for nourishment,  
claiming there isn't enough even for ourselves.

**Forgive us when we doubt your abundance  
and ignore the possibilities in what we have been given.**

We often sit with arms crossed and fists clenched,  
crying out that you have turned away and left us empty handed.

**Forgive us when we reject your abundance  
and neglect the possibilities in what we have been given.**

We easily give thanks for the good things in life,  
turning away from those which lead us to deeper community  
or second-guessing blessings as too good to be true.

**Open our eyes to the wonders that surround us.  
Help us surrender to your loving embrace that enfolds us.**

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- **Food Bank** - Next meets on Feb. 6 and 20.
- **Sun., Feb 7** - Adult and Youth SS
- **Sun., Feb 14** - Long Weekend, Lent begins, no SS
- **Sun., Feb 21** - Potluck
- **Sun., Feb 28** - Youth SS, Adult SS - Richard Rohr "Falling Upwards"
- **Sun., Mar 6** - Communion and Footwashing



**Birthdays This Week** - Sarah on Feb. 2



Coffee for Feb. 7 – Murray and Marg  
Upcoming Coffee for Feb. 14 – Brad and Heather

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- for NERC (North End Community Renewal Corporation) as they strive for youth to be visible in positive services and events, neighbours to know each other, and cultural and faith-based groups to share their gifts and enrich the community.
- for the children, staff and parents at our neighbourhood schools; David Livingston, Niji Mahkwa, Children of the Earth and R.B. Russell.

### **Luke 19:1-10**

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way.

When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner."

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."

Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."