



WELCOME

EVERYBODY

GLAD YOU'RE HERE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~Welcome to our visiting
minister's Jane and Karen~



Sanctus #315

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song
shall rise to thee; holy, holy,
holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity! ~

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: As he walked by a lake,
Jesus called fishers to follow him.

**All: And immediately,
immediately! they left their work
and went with him.**

One: As Jesus journeys through
our lives, he asks us to follow him.

All: In this moment, this moment! We have the chance to leave the past behind, and pursue Christ into God's future.

One: As Jesus wanders in our world, he invites others to join in.

All: We would join Jesus in this ministry, reaching out to our neighbours, without delay, without delay!

***OPENING PRAYER:**

Your heart is the shelter for our weary souls. You will not push us away, but clasp us tight in your embrace. You refuse to abandon us, standing by our side all our lives. Time reaper, you are our hope! When others try to tear us apart, you pick up

**the pieces, making us whole.
When we wonder what the day
might bring, you whisper,
“follow me, I will make you:
readers to little children,
bandagers of bruised hearts,
lovers of the forsaken, pilgrims
who show the way to others.”
Time shaker, you are our dawn.
You appeal to us to set aside all**

**that divides us, so we might be
one. You send us to proclaim
good news, not with silver-
tongued sophistication but with
simple words: justice, hope,
grace, love, which brings light to
the shadows. Time keeper, you
are our joy. Amen.**



OPENING HYMN: VU#101

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus Christ, to you we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in your birth at Bethlehem;
anthems be to you addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest,
in your Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to you addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill;
anthems be to you addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Grant us grace to see you, Lord,
mirrored in your holy Word;
with your grace our lives endow,
grace to imitate you now,
that we like to you may be
at your great epiphany,
anthems be to you addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.~

CALL TO RECONCILIATION:

If we come to God with open hearts and honest words, we will not be pushed away, but wrapped in God's loving and forgiving embrace. I invite you to join me as we confess our lives to God, praying...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

In unison We admit, God our light, that we do indeed try to tear Christ apart – a piece of him here to support our politics, a part of him there to undergird our economic views, the rest of him to bolster our fears of others. We could leave

**immediately to follow him, but
need to wait until we see where
he might lead. We want you to
look upon us with favour always,
but have no trouble turning our
backs on those around us. Hear
us, God our deliverer, as we
speak of our failures! Have
mercy on us, we appeal to you,**

**have mercy. May your love
become the core of our hearts,
may your compassion become
the words we speak, may your
hope illuminate the ways in
which we serve others, even as
we seek to follow the One who
calls us to new life, Jesus the
Christ.**

(Silence is kept.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

One: God is our help, so why should we be afraid? God keeps us safe, there is nothing to dread! This is good news for all of us.

All: Sheltered in God's gracious heart of mercy and love, we raise shouts of joy: thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

HYMN: VU#567
**“Will You Come and
Follow Me”**



Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.

In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.~



CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE:
2 Corinthians 5:14-20

Tom Pettigrew



For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point

of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses

against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

SCRIPTURE:
Matthew 4:12-23

Tom Pettigrew



Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee

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.”

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

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.

Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.



SERMON



HYMN: VU#508

“Just As I Am”

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to
thee,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.~



OFFERING

“Do Not Be Afraid”

***OFFERING: #541**

***Praise God from whom all
blessings flow;***

***praise God, all creatures high
and low;***

***give thanks to God in love made
known:***

Creator, Word and Spirit, One.~

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

We are called to follow, yet are often slow to respond, God of grace. We are blessed with more than we ever need or can ever use, yet we are reluctant to part with even a portion of this abundance. As we offer our gifts to you, remind us that

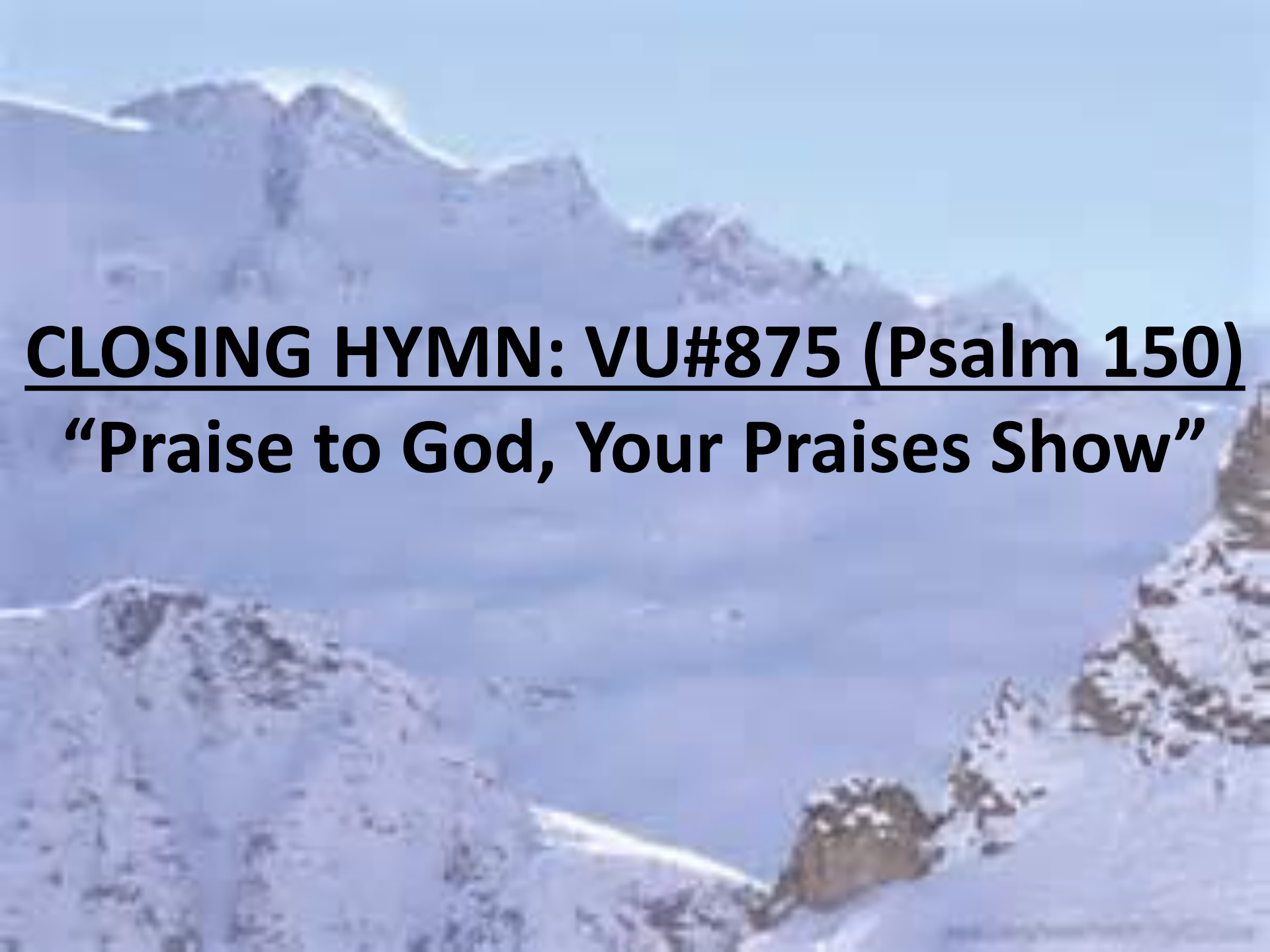
**learning generosity is part of our
call to follow the One who
models your gracious nature in
every word, every gesture, every
day. Amen.**



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A painting of a winter landscape. The foreground is covered in a thick layer of snow, with long, soft shadows cast by three bare trees on the left. The trees have dark trunks and intricate, leafless branches. In the middle ground, a simple wooden fence runs across the scene. The background shows a line of more trees and a pale, hazy sky, suggesting a distant horizon. The overall color palette is muted, with soft blues, greys, and earthy browns, creating a serene and quiet atmosphere.

LORD'S PRAYER

A scenic view of a mountain range with a lake in the foreground. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some snow or light-colored patches. The lake is calm and reflects the sky. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

CLOSING HYMN: VU#875 (Psalm 150)
“Praise to God, Your Praises Show”

Praise to God, your praises show,
hallelujah!
saints within God's courts below,
hallelujah!
angels round the throne above,
hallelujah!
all that see and share God's love.
Hallelujah!

Earth to heaven and heaven to earth,
hallelujah!

tell the wonders, sing God's worth,
hallelujah!

age to age and shore to shore,
hallelujah!

praise God, praise forevermore!
Hallelujah!

Praise to God, great mercies trace,
hallelujah!

praise this providence and grace,
hallelujah!

all that God for us has done;
hallelujah!

praise to the all-glorious One.
Hallelujah!

Strings and voices, hands and hearts,
hallelujah!

all in concert play your parts;
hallelujah!

all that breathe, your God adore,
hallelujah!

sing your praise forevermore.
Hallelujah!~

*BLESSING:

One: We could play hide and seek, waiting for others to come find us,

All: but we will go in God's light, seeking those in the world's shadows.

One: We could stay where we are, our hearts and souls captured by fear,

All: but we will follow the One who leads us to serve all longing for new life.

One: We could cling to our burdens and worries, using them as an excuse to ignore those around us,

All: but we will lay them down to join the Spirit in embracing our sisters and brothers. Amen.

Choral Response:
“Go Now In Peace”

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of
ev'ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong
and true.

Know God will guide you in all you
do.


Go now in love, and show you
believe.

Reach out to others so all the world
can see.

God will be there watching from
above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in
love.

Amen.....Amen.....Amen

A white ceramic coffee cup filled with coffee, sitting on a matching white saucer. A thick plume of white steam rises from the cup, filling the left side of the frame. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown color.

**Everyone is
invited and
encouraged to join
us for
refreshments
following worship!**

**Please remember
to return your
nametag.**