

ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH
Heart of the Matter
May 24, 2020

'Open the Eyes of my Heart'
Seventh Sunday of the Easter Season

SPEND TIME

Prelude

*"Day by day, as they **spent much time together** in the temple, they **broke bread at home** and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, **praising God** and **having the goodwill** of all the people." (Acts 2: 46-47a)*

Opening Act of Centering our Hearts

Be still, O heart, you're not alone,
your beat is shared with me.
Come now, and calm, and center here,
you're mine, secure and free.

Into your care, we offer now,
our worries, fears and strife.
We turn to you and know you're near—
Your light, our love and life.

Let's light our candles and set our heart worry stones next to it.

Hymn A Light is Gleaming

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
through-out the night,
living in the light.
Come share its gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.

When light comes pouring into the darkest place,
it hurts our eyes to see the glow. Sometimes a word of hope
reminds us of our fears,
our memories and tears.

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
through-out the night,
living in the light.
Come share its gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.**

So, let us live in the brightness God has given,
and let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here a
sparkle and ablaze,
warming all our days

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
through-out the night,
living in the light.
Come share its gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.**

BREAK BREAD Blessing the Meal

Holy Peace-Giver,
Holy Peace-Giver
[continue to repeat the next lines in this way]
We gather in your name...
invited by Jesus...
bound together with your Spirit...
in union with each other...
Feed our bodies and our spirits...
with your comforting presence...
so that we might be your comfort to others...

Bless this food...
and break open our hearts...
Bless this drink...
and pour out your love...
Amen...

Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

Scripture: Luke 24: 44-53

Hymn: I Come with Joy vs.1, 4 & 5 VU #477
I come with joy, a friend of God, forgiven, loved and free,
The life of Jesus to recall to recall
in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near;
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here, alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-19, 23

Hymn Open my Eyes that I may see VU #371

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Chorus:

Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready, my god, they will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Chorus

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare

love with the people thus to share.
Chorus

Reflection

Action Response

Breaking Open our Lives with Discussion

What did you see when you looked around and di looking at it with
“the eyes of a grateful heart” offer you new perspective?

What do you want to ‘elevate’ in your commitment to make this
world a better place?

“Complete this sentence, “I have an elevated sense of gratitude for
_____.”

Breaking Open our Hearts with Prayer

Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea,

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close, wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Prayers of the Heart

PRAISE GOD!

HYMN: We are dancing in the heart of God

We are dancing in the heart of God

We are dancing in the heart of God

We are dancing in the heart of God x2

We are dancing, we are dancing x2

We are dancing in the heart of God x2

We are dancing in the joy of God x2

We are dancing in the joy of God x2

We are dancing, we are dancing x2

We are dancing in the joy of God x2

HAVE GOODWILL

Seventh Sunday of Easter - Stained Glass Hearts Use tissue paper, cardstock, wax paper, and glue, you can make a colorful heart to hang these in your windows as a reminder to look at the world with the eyes of our hearts. Or hang them in a tree outside for others to enjoy as they go by. You can go online to find instructions. As always, adapt if you don't have tissue paper

Benediction

(based on Psalm 16)

Postlude