# SACRED EARTH, SACRED WORK GATHERING Knox United Church, Brandon, Manitoba, 14 August 2022 This is a house of prayer for all people. You are welcome here.

# CONNECTING FROM EAST AND WEST, FROM NORTH AND SOUTH

#### PRELUDES

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We acknowledge that Knox United Church is an Affirming Ministry.

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the peoples with whom Treaties 1 & 2 were signed and the territory wherein we meet today, and our responsibility as Treaty people. We recognize those First Peoples who did not participate in the making of Treaties. We acknowledge these lands as home to the Dakota Sioux, Assiniboine, Anishinaabek, Dene, Cree, and Oji-Cree Peoples, and we are in the heart of the Metis nation.

## INTRODUCTION: OPEN

#### CALL TO WORSHIP: (unison)

Jesus said," I am the gate (door). Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

#### **OPENING PRAYER: (unison)**

Trusted companion of my journey, you call me to go through doors of change. Turn my wavering heart toward you. Teach me to trust in your guidance. Convince me of the benefits of change. Deepen my belief in possibilities of growth. Most of all strengthen my love for you. I open the door of my heart to you. I open the door.

> HYMN Open My Eyes, That I May See VU 371

# THEME: Open the Door

#### THEME: Spiritual Transformation

#### SCRIPTURE

"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's spirit dwells in you?" (1 Cor.3:16)

#### PRAYER: (unison)

Companion of my growth, many are the turns and tumbles of my ever-changing life. As I find my way on the journey of spiritual transformation, I trust that your abiding presence will guide and guard me. I open the door of my heart to you. I open the door of my hearts. Amen

> HYMN I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – VU 626

#### THEME: Identifying the Door

A time for silent reflection

#### PRAYER: (unison)

Great Door of Love, assure me of your protective presence as I wander about the landscape of my life. When I become lost, clear a path of hope. May every seeking footstep of mine take me through the doorway of your love. Be my passageway today. O be my passageway. I open the door of my heart to you. Amen

HYMN Come Into My Heart – VU 661

#### SCRIPTURE:

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. (Revelation 3: 20)

THEME: Knocking on the door

PRAYER: (unison)

Ever-present One, you offer me strength and love. You can help me open any door. Lead me to where my truest self dwells. I reach out to receive the freedom and courage you extend to me. Transform my life into that reflects your love...Our Father.

## MINUTE FOR MISSION

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN Spirit Open My Heart – MV 79

# BENEDICTION: (unison)

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with us on the road. May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out our hands to serve. May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open our hearts to love. May we see the face of Christ in everyone we meet and may everyone we meet see the face of Christ in us.

> CLOSING SONG Go Make a difference – MV 209 Refrain only X2