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**BETHANY UNITED CHURCH  
OF THE EAST DISTRICT, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR  
CONFERENCE**

**Organist for Today:** Leslie Forward  
**Organist/Choir Director:** Leslie Forward - **Supply**  
**Organists:** Sharon Dean, Ruth Davidge, Louise Drover  
**Caretaker:** Wayne Parsons **Secretary:** Lisa Butt  
**Clergy:** Rev. Hary J. Whitehorne  
**Website:** [www.bethanyunitedchurch.com](http://www.bethanyunitedchurch.com)  
**February 28, 2010 - 11:00am - Lent 2**

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**GATHERING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Theme:**

In a sharp exchange with some Pharisees about Herod and then in a lament over Jerusalem, Jesus links his ministry with the prophets. Jesus laments the infidelity of Jerusalem. We, as God's people, are Jesus' chosen fellow workers. When Jesus looks upon our fidelity, he still laments.

**INTROIT:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

- L: Give praise and rejoice in God's love.
- P: Like a hen with her brood beneath her wings, God has brought us together!**
- L: Rejoice in God's presence and sing songs of praise to God's name.
- P: We seek God's will and pray that we may walk safely in God's path.**
- L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**WELCOME AND LIFE & WORK OF OUR CHURCH**

**OPENING PRAYER:** (Unison)

Lord God - your ways are holy and good and your love is strong and true. You are swift to answer those who trust in you - those who walk in your ways and who make your living word their daily hope. Bless, we pray, our gathering today. Touch our hearts and our minds with the fire of your Holy Spirit. Grant that our praise may be more than words - our prayer more than speech -- our songs more than mere harmony. Teach us and comfort us - strengthen us and lead us - that we might draw closer to you. We

ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

**HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy..."**

**VU # 315**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Unison)**

Loving God, You weep for us as well, because we have strayed, because we have worshiped the false gods of materialism and nationalism, because we are distracted by our possessions and our obsessions - yet even now we hear your voice calling to us to repent, to return, to reclaim our destiny. We are citizens of your reign, called to live lives of service as an example to all others. Forgive us our arrogance, receive us once more as your family, renew your covenant, and restore our relationship with you and each other. **Amen.**

**Words of Assurance:**

**Know that God will hear and answer our prayers and forgive our sins. When we confess our sins God is always ready to forgive us. Amen.**

**WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**SCRIPTURES:** Genesis 15:1-12 and Luke 13:31-35

**ANTHEM:**

The Senior Choir

**HYMN:**

**"Where Cross the Crowded Ways... VU # 681**

**SERMON:**

**"TO THE BEAT OF HEROD'S DRUM"**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**HYMN: (during offering) - Your Work, O God... VU # 537**

**Offertory Prayer: (Unison)**

Gracious God, we thank you for your trust as we receive offerings given in your name for your work. All we have is yours. You are the source of all good things. In these offerings we acknowledge your sovereignty and thank you for this opportunity once more to be contributing members of your reign. **Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

**HYMN:**

**"O Jesus, I Have Promised" VU # 120**

**Commissioning & Benediction**