**First United Church**

*Seeking to be a welcoming community of Christian faith, proclaiming and celebrating the love of God in Jesus Christ through the Inspiration of the Holy Spirit*

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August 19, 2018 @ 10:30am

*7 Curtis St., St.Thomas, ON N5P 1H3 Phone: (519) 631-7570*

*e-mail: office@1stunitedchurch.ca*

*web: www.1stunitedchurch.ca*

*MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF GOD*

*Pastoral Minister: Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori*

*Music Minister: Jody McDonald-Groulx*

*Secretary/Treasurer: Lori Hoffman*

*Custodian: Dave Luftenegger*

**Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost**

Worship Service

Sunday, August 19, 2018 - 10:30 a.m.

Preacher: Mr. Kerry Stover, MDiv.

***Notes***: Asterisk (\*) – You may stand if comfortable doing so

**VU** = Voices United **MV** = More Voices

***Musical/Choral Prelude***

1. **MV#172** *“God Says”* (2x)

**God says, “Be still so you may hear**

**the words I whisper in your ear.**

**If you will listen, you will know**

**I’m with you always where you go”**

1. **MV#18** *“Lord, Prepare Me”* (2x)

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,**

**pure and holy tried and true;**

**with thanksgiving, I’ll be a living**

**sanctuary for you.**

***Call to Worship*** (responsive) Based on Ephesians 5:20

Give thanks to God!
**We thank God for joy, for laughter,
for abundant blessings of every kind.**
Give thanks to God
at all times and for everything!
**We thank God, when we can and as we can,
for struggles, for solitude, for fears.**
Give thanks to God
at all times and for everything
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
**We thank God that, in Christ,
our joys as well as our pain,
our losses as well as our laughter,
are in God's heart and hands.**

***Opening Prayer*** (unison)

 **Every moment is a new beginning with you, God.**

 **Every second a reminder of your love!**

 **Bless our shouts,**

**bless our words,**

**bless our songs,**

 **that they might become actions filled with the promise**

 **of the life that you are in us.**

 **May it ever be!. Amen.**

*Written by The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, 43rd Moderator, UCC.*

 *in Gathering, Pentecost 1 2018, page 38.*

*Used with permission.*

***Life and Work of the Church***

***Welcoming of Visitors***

***Greetings: Peace of Christ (****Halle, Halle, Halle****)***

***Songs of Praise***

1. **VU#381** *“Spirit of Life ”* (1x)

**Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the seas; 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.**

1. **MV#25** *“O God, Send Out Your Spirit* ” (2x)

 **O God, send out your Spirit; renew the face of the earth.**

 **O God, send out your Spirit, renew the face of the earth.**

***Prayer***

***Praise and Adoration***

***Intercession***

***The Lord’s Prayer***

***Hymn:* VU #376***“Spirit of the Living God”*

*The children may go to the Activity Room with Marcie Hill during the singing of the hymn*

***Scripture Reading:* Ephesians 4: 25- 5:2**(NRSV)

*Reader: This is the Word of God*

***All: Thanks be to God***

***The Message:* “Living a Life of Love”**

***Offertory***

***Hymn of Dedication***

 **Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

***Offertory Prayer*** (unison)

**God of grace, it is our delight to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this our joyful offering as a token of our abiding love; use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to the world. Amen.**

***\*Closing Hymn:* VU#684** *“Make me a Channel of Your Peace”*

***\* Benediction/Sending Forth***

***Threefold Amen***

***Commissioning Hymn:* VU#298** *“When You Walk From Here”*

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,**

 **walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God’s humble care.**

***\* Musical Postlude***

**LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH - August 19, 2018**

Rev. Emmanuel Ofori is on vacation for the month of August.

Rev. John Brown will be covering for Pastoral Emergencies. If you have a Pastoral Emergency, please contact the church office (519-631-7570 or office@1stunitedchurch.ca) to be put in touch with Rev. Brown.

**Happy birthday this week to:** Ali Harris, Emily Scott.

**TODAY:** \***Faith Activity Room** for children 4 & up in the Music Room.

\*Join us in the Fellowship Room for **refreshments** following the worship service!

**Upcoming Dates & Events**

If you’d like to volunteer to serve **Summer Lemonade in the Fellowship Room** following Sunday worship please call Ruth Zions @ 226-289-3055.