**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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July 08, 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*

**Seventh Sunday of Pentecost Sunday**

Sunday, July 08, 2018 - 10:30 a.m. Worship

Preacher: Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori

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

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

***Musical/Choral Prelude***

1. **VU#175** *“This is the Day”*

**This is the day the God has made! Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad! This is the day that God has made! Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!**

1. **MV#18** *“Lord Prepare Me”*

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true; with thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.**

***Opening Prayer***

***Opening Hymn:* VU#264***“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

***Lighting of the Christ Candle***

***Life and Work of the Church [see insert]***

***Welcoming of Visitors***

***Call to Worship***

***Prayer***

***Praise and Adoration***

***Intercession***

***The Lord’s Prayer***

***Hymn: VU #412 “****Jesus Loves Me”*

*The Children may leave for the Activity Room with Teresa Turvey*

***Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 1:1-11***

*Reader: This is the Word of God*

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

***\* Hymn of Preparation: VU#664 “****What a Friend We Have In Jesus”*

***The Message:* “Learning to Pray”**

***Offertory***

***Hymn of Dedication***

 **God of love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you.**

 **May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever.**

 **Give us courage to stand for truth, help us give to others.**

 **God of love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you.**

***Offertory Prayer***

***\*Closing Hymn: VU#646*** *“Siyahamba”*

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

***Threefold Amen***

***\* Musical Postlude***

**Hymn of Prayer**

Lord, teach us how to pray aright,

With reverence and with fear;

Though dust and ashes in Thy sight,

We may, we must draw near.

We perish if we cease from prayer;

O grant us power to pray;

And when to meet Thee we prepare,

Lord, meet us by the way.

Patience to watch, and wait, and weep,

Though mercy long delay;

Courage our fainting souls to keep,

And trust Thee though Thou slay.

Give these, and then Thy will be done,

Thus, strengthened with all might,

We, through Thy Spirit and Thy Son,

Shall pray, and pray aright.

– James Montgomery (1771-1854)

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

In the prayer that Jesus taught us, we refer to God as “Father”. This means that we have parent-child relationship with God, so we can talk to God as a child talks to the mother or father. This communication is what is referred to as ***Prayer.***

This communication with God is vital; it is the breath of the believer.

1. Context of Prayer
2. What events and/or issues lead to prayer
3. Response to these events
4. Content of Prayer.
5. Adoration (God is awesome prayer)
6. Confession (I am sorry prayer)
7. Thanksgiving (Thank you prayer)
8. Supplication (Asking prayer)
9. Petition (asking for self or on behalf of others)
10. Intercession (asking on behalf of others/situations)

**Think about this:**

You breathe countless number of times in a day. The question is, how often do you communicate with God?

Remember, seven days make one week. But seven days without prayer makes one ***weak!***