**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 22, 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*

**Ninth Sunday of Pentecost Sunday**

Worship Service

Sunday, July 22, 2018 - 10:30 a.m.

Preacher: Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori

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

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

***Musical/Choral Prelude***

1. *“See Ye First”* (2x)

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,**

**and all these things shall be added unto you, allelu, alleluia,**

1. **VU#21** *“Open Our Hearts”* (2x)

**Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you**

**O loving God. (Open our hearts)**

***Opening Prayer***

***Call to Worship***

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

***Welcoming of Visitors***

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

***Songs of Praise***

1. *“Awesome God”* (2x)

**Our God is an awesome God, and reigns from heaven above with wisdom, pow’r and love. O God is an awesome God.**

1. *“Lord, I Lift Your Name On High*” (1x)

**Lord, I lift Your name on high; Lord, I love to sing Your praises. I’m so glad You’re in my life; I’m so glad You came to save us.**

**You came from heaven to earth to show the way,**

**from earth to the cross, my debt to pay.**

**From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;**

**Lord, I lift your name on high!**

***Prayer***

***Praise and Adoration***

***Intercession***

***The Lord’s Prayer***

***Hymn:* VU #365***“Jesus Loves Me”*

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

***Old Testament Reading: Daniel 9:1-19***

*Reader: This is the Word of God*

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

***The Message:* “God earsHears Prayer”**

***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 #437*** *“The Day You Gave Us, God, Is Ended”*

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

***Threefold Amen***

***Commissioning Hymn:* MV#209***“Go Make a Diff’rence”*

***\* Musical Postlude***

**SCRIPTURE READING: Daniel 9:1-6, 16-19**

**1** In the first year of Darius son of Ahasuerus, by birth a Mede, who became king over the realm of the Chaldeans—

**2** in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years that, according to the word of the Lord to the prophet Jeremiah, must be fulfilled for the devastation of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years.

**3** Then I turned to the Lord God, to seek an answer by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.

**4** I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, "Ah, Lord, great and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments,

**5** we have sinned and done wrong, acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and ordinances.

**6** We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land...

**16** O Lord, in view of all your righteous acts, let your anger and wrath, we pray, turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain; because of our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors, Jerusalem and your people have become a disgrace among all our neighbors.

**17** Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his supplication, and for your own sake, Lord, let your face shine upon your desolated sanctuary.

**18** Incline your ear, O my God, and hear. Open your eyes and look at our desolation and the city that bears your name. We do not present our supplication before you on the ground of our righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercies.

**19** O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, listen and act and do not delay! For your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people bear your name!"