**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*

June 16, 2019 @ 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*

**Trinity Sunday**

**PREACHER: Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori**

**\*** You are invited to stand if comfortable doing so

VU = Voices United MV = More Voices

***We Gather Together***

***Opening Prayer***

***Choral Musical Prelude***

***Lighting of the Christ Candle***

***Passing of the Peace (*VU #958** *“Halle, Halle, Halle”****)***

***Welcome/Life and Work of the Church***

***We Draw Near to Worship***

***Call to Worship:***

One: God the Creator is in this place.

**All: The love of God is with us.**

One: Jesus our Redeemer is in this place.

**All: The grace of our Lord is with us.**

One: The Holy Spirit is in this place.

**All: The communion of the Spirit is with us.**

One: We welcome the fullness of God's presence.

**All: God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer** **be with us now and forever.**

One: Glory be to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All: As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise VU #232 “***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You***”**

**Prayers/The Lord’s Prayer**

***Circle Time***

***Ministry of Music:*** *Senior Choir*

***We Respond in Love***

***Offering/Song Ministration***

***Hymn of Dedication*** *“Doxology”*

***Offertory Prayer***

***We Listen for God’s Word***

***Scripture Readings:***

1st Reading: *Acts 20:13-21*

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

2nd Reading: *2 Corinthians 13:11-14*

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn of Preparation*** *“Sing Amen*”**VU#431\***

***The Message*** *“Finally, Brothers and Sisters, Good-Bye"*

***We Go Out to Serve***

***\*Closing Hymn:* VU #425***“God, dismiss us with your blessing”*

***\* Benediction***

***\* Triple Amen***

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

***\* Musical Postlude***

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

In January 2018, we embraced each other to form a bond which began the wonderful relationship between you, as a congregation, and me as your pastor. I thank God for the ministry we have shared up to this point and the love of Christ that binds us together. It has become necessary for me “to refrain from embracing”, thus ending my Pastoral Relationship with you and to move on to form a new relationship elsewhere.

What can be said that is adequate in a farewell sermon? There are not enough words of thanks or enough words of love that I could share. However, I will leave you with these last words of…

1. **Reminder of The Nature of The Ministry – Challenge**
2. **Recommendation for**
3. Self-Care
4. Saints-Care
5. **Commendation to**
6. The Love of God
7. The Grace our Lord Jesus Christ
8. The Sweet Fellowship of the Holy Spirit

“Finally, brothers and sisters, ***goodbye***.

Keep on growing to maturity.

Keep listening to ***my appeals***.

Continue agreeing with each other and living in peace.

Then the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss …

May the ***grace*** of the Lord Jesus the Messiah,

the ***love*** of God, and

the ***fellowship*** of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!”

 (2 Corinthians 13:11, 12, 14, ISB).