**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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March 03, 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*

**COMMUNION 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***

1. *“Shine, Jesus Shine”* (2x)

**Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory**

**Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire**

**Flow river flow, fill the nations with grace and mercy**

**Send forth your word, Lord and let there be light.**

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.**

***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:*** Responsive Reading (Psalm 1) **VU pg. #724**

***Sunday School children may go downstairs***

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

***We Respond in Love***

***Offering/Song Ministration***

***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***

***We Break Bread Together***

***\* Communion Hymn:* VU#467***“One Bread, One Body”*

God be with you.

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift up our hearts unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks to God

**It is good and pleasant to give God thanks and praise**

It is good and pleasant thing, our joy and our moral duty, … to give you thanks and praise,… Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the heavenly host, we join in the hymn of everlasting praise saying …

**Holy, holy, holy, LORD God of hosts,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Glory be to you, O Lord, most high. Amen.**

***Prayer of Consecration***

***Invitation***

***Distribution of Elements***

***We Listen for God’s Word***

***\* Hymn of Preparation:* VU#371** *“Open My Eyes”*

***Scripture Readings:*** Exodus 34:29–35; Luke 9:28–36

Reader: This is the Word of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

***The Message:*** “Let Your Light Shine” (Matthew 5:16)

***We Go Out to Serve***

***\*Closing Hymn:* VU #585“***Jesus Bids Us Shine***”**

***\* Benediction***

***\* Triple Amen***

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

***\* Musical Postlude***

*\*Thank you to Dr. Wayne Carroll for sharing his gift of music today!*

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

When you get right with God by faith in Jesus, you become a new person

“***We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are***”

(Romans 3:22)

“***Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!***” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The Bible uses many images to describe your new life. One of such images is “light of the world” (Matthew 5:14).

This means, the world is dark; you are called, then, to “l***et your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven***” (Matthew 5:16).

In fact, your ***new relationship*** with Godshows in your behavior; the world ought to see it. And for this to happen, you need to …

1. **Talk to God in prayer**
2. **Let God talk to you through His Word (Bible)**
3. **Talk with fellow believers in Christ**
4. **Talk to others about your new life in Christ**

Think about this:

***Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,***

***All his wonderful passion and purity,***

***O thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine,***

***Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.***