**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 10, 2019 @ 10:30am

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*MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF GOD*

*Pastoral Minister: Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori*

*Music Minister: Jody McDonald-Groulx*

*Secretary/Treasurer: Lori Hoffman*

*Custodian: Dave Luftenegger*

###### Lent 1

###### ORDER OF SERVICE

***Opening Prayer/Songs/Choruses***

1. **MV# 183** *“I’m Gonna Shout, Shout, Shout”* (2x)

**I’m gonna shout, shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!**

**I’m gonna shout, shout, shout out my love**

 **for God’s most holy child!**

**For whatever I might do today,**

 **at home, at school, at work, at play,**

**I’ve got Jesus’ love deep down inside of me!**

1. *“Awesome God”* (2x)

**Our God is an awesome God**

**He reigns from Heaven above**

**with wisdom, pow’r and love.**

**Our God is an awesome God!**

1. *“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”* (2x)

**I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river,**

**I’ve got peace live a river in my soul.**

**I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river,**

**I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.**

1. *“Testify to Love”* (2x)

**For as long as I shall live, I will testify to love**

**I’ll be a witness in the silences when words are not enough**

**With every breath I take I will give thanks to God above**

**For as long as I shall live, I will testify to love.**

***Circle Time***

***Welcome/Notices***

***Invitation to Invest in God’s Mission***

***Offertory Hymn/Prayer 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.**

***Songs/Choruses***

1. **MV#156***“Dance With the Spirit”* (2x)

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin’**

**walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.**

**Work and hope for the new life abornin’**

**listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

1. **MV#21***“Open Our Hearts”* (2x)

**Open our hearts, open our minds,**

**Open our lives to you , O loving God.**

**(Open our hearts)**

***Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:9-13***

***Hymn of Preparation –* VU #664***“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

***The Message:* “Talk to God”**

***Prayer***

***\*Closing Hymn:* MV#214***“May God’s Sheltering Wings”*

***\* Benediction***

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

**Go make a diff’rence. We can make a diff’rence.**

**Go make a diff’rence in the world.**

**Go make a diff’rence. We can make a diff’rence.**

**Go make a diff’rence in the world.**

***\* Musical Postlude***

***We welcome Paula Thomas as our Music Leader this morning.***

***Thank you for sharing your gifts with us today Paula!***

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

Ash Wednesday begins Lent, the period of 40 days before Easter. Lent is a season of preparation before the celebrations of Easter – ***sober reflection, self-examination*** and ***spiritual renewal***. The ultimate goal of Lent is spiritual renewal and growth.

In order to grow spiritually, we need to a) ***talk*** to God in prayer, b) allow God to ***talk*** us, c) ***talk*** with other believers and d) ***talk*** to those who also need the love of God in Christ.

For today, we look at ***“Talking to God in Prayer”***, using the model prayer Jesus taught us (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4).

*Our Father, which art in heaven*, ……………. **PRAISE**

*Hallowed be thy Name.*

*Thy Kingdom come* ……………. **PETITION**

*Thy will be done in earth,*

*As it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread.* ……………. **PROVISION**

*And forgive us our trespasses,* ……………. **PARDON**

*As we forgive them that trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation,*  ……………. **PROTECTION**

*But deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom,*  ……………. **PRAISE**

*The power, and the glory,*

*For ever and ever.*

*Amen.*

**Think about this:**

* **You need prayer the way you need air to live.**
* **Your spiritual survival depends on prayer**
* **Have you talked to God today?**

**NEXT WEEK:** “**Let God Talk to You**” (1 Peter 1:22-2:3)