**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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May 12, 2019 @ 10:30am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

###### ORDER OF SERVICE

***Opening Prayer***

***Choruses/Songs***

1. MV#182 “Grateful” (2x)

**Grateful for the life your give us, thankful for your Holy Son,**

**Joyful in your spirit flowing over all, O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,**

**Joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.**

1. MV#122 “This is the Day” (2x)

**This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!**

**This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!**

**Singing hallelu, singing hallellu, singing hallelu,**

**we will rejoice and be glad!**

**Singing hallelu, singing hallellu, singing hallelu,**

**we will rejoice and be glad!**

1. MV#18 “Lord, Prepare Me…” (2x)

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

***Welcome/Notices***

***Call to Worship***

***Anthem:*** *Children’s Choir*

***Circle Time***

***Prayers/The Lord’s Prayer***

***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.**

***Hymn:*** MV#195 “Long Ago & Far Away”

***Communion***

***Scripture Reading****: Isaiah 42:13-15*

***Hymn of Preparation*** VU #580 – “Faith of Our Fathers”

***The Message:* “My Faith Journey as a Mother”**

*(Rev. Emmanuel K. Ofori & Sherry Johnstone)*

***Prayer***

***\*Closing Hymn:*** VU#337 “Blessed Assurance”

***\* Benediction***

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

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,**

**walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God’s humble care.**

 ***Musical Postlude***

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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*

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

**A Litany: We Thank God For Mothers**

One: Mothers come in many different forms, and today we celebrate them all!

**All: Thank God for mothers!**

One: Everyone here is either a son or a daughter.

**All: Thank God for my mother!**

One: For those women who have joined God in Heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth.

**All: Thank God for the mothers of the past.**

One: For every woman who is working day and night to raise her children right now.

**All: Thank God for the mothers of today.**

One: For all the women who are expecting, but aren't quite mothers yet!

**All: Thank God for the soon-to-be-mothers.**

One: For the women who took in others' children through adoption and foster care.

**All: Thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.**

One: For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on.

**All: Thank God for the mothers who are so strong.**

One: For all the women who have desperately wanted to have children of their own, but chose instead to mother everyone else.

**All: Thank God for the mothers in spirit.**

**We thank you, Lord, for the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways. We pray that we will honor them in everything we do. Amen.**

**Think about this**

We thank God for lives of our mothers and mother-figures – what are some of the things your mother or mother-figure has done that you are thankful to God for.

***Next Week:***

“The lessons my mother or mother-figure taught me about God”

(2 Timothy 1:3-7)