

Cell Phones interfere with our sound system, therefore we request that all phones be turned off or to "airplane mode." Thank you.

** indicates please stand, as you are able*

March 18, 2018

Lent 5

ORDER OF SERVICE

WE GATHER

Silent Prayer and Preparation

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

* **Gathering Hymn 244** – *Sing Your Praise to God Eternal*

* Opening Words: *(responsive)*

The days are surely coming, says our God;

The day is here to affirm a new covenant.

We claim God's steadfast love.

We seek to live with God in vital relationship.

God's law will be written on our hearts.

Our Creator claims our faithfulness.

We are eager to know the God who loves us.

We are ready to learn God's intention for us.

God offers us the joy of healing and wholeness.

In worship we open our hearts

to a new and right spirit.

Let us worship God.

* **Introit:** *VU 121:5*

God of all our fear and sorrow,

God who lives beyond our death;

hold us close through each tomorrow,

love as near as every breath,

love as near as every breath.

(Congregation may be seated.)

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Prayer of Approach: *(in unison)*

Holy God, by the cross and resurrection,

you lifted the suffering world

toward hope and transformation

and you open to us the way to life in all its fullness.

As we move ever closer to the passion of Christ,

may your law of love be written on our hearts

as Christ draws all people to himself.

Your Word, O God, has power to change our lives

and to create a whole new world.

As we meditate on your word this day,

fill us with your Holy Spirit,

that we may treasure your word in Jesus Christ,

in whose words we pray as we sing ...

The Prayer of Jesus: *VU 959 (sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil

for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Choir Anthem:

"Ave Verum"

- *W.A. Mozart*

WE LISTEN

Bible Readings: *(on page 6 of the bulletin)*

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

- *Sheila Laundry*

Responsive Psalm 119 (part 2) -VU pg. 838

John 12: 20-33

Sermon

WE GIVE THANKS

* **Hymn 186** – *Now the Green Blade Rises*

Offering

Choir Anthem:

"We Are Yours"

- *Price/Besig*

* Offertory Response: *VU 544*

**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

* Prayer of Dedication: *(in unison)*

**God of goodness and light,
we thank you for the ways
you invite us to work with you
in accomplishing your purpose here on earth.
Keep us always faithful to that calling.
Receive now our gifts
as a sign of our commitment
to what you are doing in the world
through your people. Amen.**

Prayers of God's People

Choral Response: *VU 400*

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

WE GO FORTH

* **Closing Hymn 135** – *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

* Benediction

* Choral Blessing: *MV 224*

**May the God of Peace and of all good,
may the God of Peace and of all good,
be always with you. Amen!
May God's peace be with you. Amen!**

Postlude *(The congregation is invited to hear the postlude in silence.)*

WELCOME

We welcome all who worship with us today, but especially our guests. We would like to have a chance to meet our visitors. Please sign the guest book at the main entrance doors and introduce yourself to the greeter in the foyer or to the minister. After worship, the congregation visits over refreshments in the lower hall and we hope you will join us.

If you would like the minister to call on you, please contact the church office (905 892-6433); the church office is open Tuesday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Assisted Hearing Devices are available at the back of the sanctuary for improved sound. Please feel free to ask an usher for a headset. As well, large print copies of the hymns are available at the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to use them during the service.

Ushers: Rich Miller and Fred Newell

Counters: Keith and Ruth Rae

Announcements

Church Council – A special meeting of Church Council will take place today, immediately following the worship service. This is to authorize Council to install air conditioning in the sanctuary and to approve a request to Extension Council for a grant to cover part of the cost.

Thank you for your prayers, cards, emails, phone calls and support during Ralph's surgery and recuperation. We felt supported and blessed to be part of such a caring community at Fonthill United.
- Ralph and Sheila

Taize Services will be held every Wednesday at 6:30 pm at Fenwick United Church for the 7 weeks through Lent. These are quiet, meditative services to reflect on the meaning of the season as we approach Easter. Everyone is invited to attend.

Choralis Camerata will present "Gilbert & Sullivan Highlights" this Saturday March 24 at 7:30 pm at St. Andrew's United Church in Niagara Falls. Tickets: adults \$28, seniors \$25. Call 905-646-9225.

Employment Opportunity – Cave Springs Camp is looking for a part-time seasonal maintenance person for May to October 2018, for 18 hours per week. This is a paid position. For more information contact Jim Dohn. There is a list of duties involved on the bulletin board downstairs.

Memorial Donations – We welcome Easter donations to go towards the on-going decorating of the church. If it is in memory of someone, please let the secretary know so that appropriate recognition may be given in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Good Friday – The joint Good Friday service this year will be held at Wesley United Church on March 30 at 10:00 am.

These Days devotional booklets for April-June are now available in the information rack across from the coat room on the lower level.

Fonthill United Church

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March 18, 2018 Lent 5

The Week Ahead at Fonthill United

Mon.	March 19	6:00 pm	Pickleball
		7:00 pm	Lower Hall rental
Tues.	March 20	9:00 am	Badminton
		9:00 am	Quilting
		9:00 am	Pedicure Salon
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		5:00 pm	Niagara Presbytery Meeting
Wed.	March 21	6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		6:30 pm	Cubs and Beavers
Thurs.	March 22	9:00 am	Badminton
		9:30 am	Quilting
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:30 pm	Tai Chi
Sat.	March 24	1:00 pm	Lower Hall rental
Sun.	March 25	9:30 am	Worship Service – <i>Palm Sunday</i>
		11:00 am	Discussion Group

Minister: Garry van Bruchem
Music Director: William Outred
Council Chair: Brian McDonald
Secretary: Patrice Walker