

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

VU-Voices United Hymn Book | **MV**-More Voices Hymn Book
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*** Indicates to please stand, if able**

Jesus has been grooming Peter as the great shepherd because Peter understands that even denial, if followed by repentance and forgiveness, builds character and empathy.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: HWC 105 (*refrain*)

**He is Lord, He is Lord!
He has risen from the dead and He is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Be with us now.

Draw near to us as we draw near to You.

God of Life,

You are as near to us as our breath.

Touch our eyes,

that we may see You in one another.

Open our ears,

that we may hear Your voice in the cries of the oppressed.

Enter our hearts,

that we may be filled with Your love toward all people.

Come, O God of life and breath and wholeness.

Be with us now.

**Show us the way to new life and grant us the courage
to be people of Your Way.**

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OPENING PRAYER: (*in unison*)

Loving Creator, maker of heaven and earth, God of all flesh, You made all things according to the Word of Your power and You made us the head of all creations. We are here today to worship You. Make our praises and worship acceptable in Your sight. You made us understand that You inhabit the praise of Your people, come down Lord and ride on the wings of our praise. In our gathering today, let us feel You, refresh us in You, renew us and help us grow in You. As we start today, guide us through according to Your will. In Jesus' Strong Name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE VU 703:** "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

TIME OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSION:

The God we love and serve is a merciful God. He made us, saved us, and unconditionally gave us His Love. He wants the best for us and we are constantly on His mind. However, we sin. We stray away from Him and we expose ourselves to the grim misdeeds this world has to offer. God insists on forgiving us for one reason; Love. Let us pray.

Lord, You who created and redeemed the world from evil, You who healed the sick and made the blind gain sight, You who forgave those who betrayed and denied. Open our eyes to see You and your compassion, make our ears listen to Your Word and our mouths connected to Your Teachings. Please remember not our sins and grant us life in accordance with Your Will. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

CHORAL RESPONSE: HWC 427 (*vs. 1*)

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.**

God eagerly responds to our sincere repentance with His gracious forgiveness.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING: VU pg. 891 “Wisdom 7”

GOSPEL LESSON: John 21: 1-17 *LAY READER: Heather Jesik*

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.

Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, ‘Children, you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It is the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’

A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.’

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “It Is Good to Praise the Lord” – *Carter/Beall*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

***OFFERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

**Gracious God,
You have taught us that it is better to give than to receive.
You have blessed us with abundance
and we can never out-give you.
Receive these offerings that come from our hearts
as well as our hands.
May Your blessing magnify their benefits.
We pray in the Name of Jesus who gives us all things. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

(Lord hear our prayer, and in your love, answer)

THE LORD’S PRAYER: *(sung - VU 959)*

**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.**

***HYMN VU 273:** “The King of Love”

MESSAGE: “Peter’s Third Degree”

***CLOSING HYMN VU 288:** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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LARGE PRINT HYMNS and RESPONSIVE READINGS
are available on the pew as you enter the sanctuary.

AFTER WORSHIP, everyone is invited to stay
for refreshments and fellowship
in the Board Room & Friendship Room on the lower level.

PRAYER LIST
As we face life’s challenges, we are encouraged by those who surround us with their prayers. If you would like your name to appear on the prayer list, please tell the minister or a member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVERYONE IS INVITED to stay for coffee hour today to take part in the round table talks. Please see the back page of the bulletin for details.

EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22:

The Global Theme for Earth Day 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastic."

Canadians throw away over 3 million tonnes of plastic waste every year. Only 9% is recycled while the rest ends up in our landfills, waste-to-energy facilities or the environment. Plastic waste and marine litter burdens our economy and threatens the health of the environment including wildlife, rivers, lakes and oceans.

With the longest coastline in the world and one-quarter of the world's freshwater, Canada has a unique responsibility—and opportunity—to tackle this challenge. By taking urgent action to reduce plastic waste and pollution, we will make our economy stronger and take an important step toward protecting wildlife and the places we love.

For the sake of human and planetary health, please take action! Small changes make a difference. We can avoid using single use plastics such as plastic cutlery, plastic straws, plastic bags, plastic water bottles. Replace with reusable containers and bags. Buy fewer items packaged in plastic. Use glass or steel containers. If we all do our part we can achieve the global goal of a 60% reduction of all plastics by 2040.

THE SPRING GRAPEVINE newsletter will be going out on May 1. If anyone has an article or notice to be included, please send it to the church office by April 26. Thank you.

CHORALIS CAMERATA presents “Sentimental Journey,” offering showtunes and “oldies” through the generations, on Sunday May 5 at 2:30 pm at St. Ann’s Parish Hall, 5731 Desson Ave., Niagara Falls. Tickets are \$25, including snacks and drink ticket. To purchase call 905 931-9225 or email: choraliscamerata@gmail.com.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY: April 25, 2024 officially marks our 182nd anniversary so on Sunday, April 28 we plan to celebrate this significant milestone in our history. We are always blessed with good music during our services thanks to the efforts of Bill and our amazing choir but for this occasion we will have some guest musicians as well. We are proud of our history, and we have found some items from the Archives of the Church which will be put on display and think you may enjoy seeing. This will include Commemorative Coins from the 150th Anniversary which will be sold to help cover the costs of some needed building repairs.

The Outreach Committee collected the contact information for 45 past members and sent out handwritten invitations to invite them to come and renew some old friendships and make some new friends. We hope that each of you will come to the service in person and invite your friends and family to join you. If you are in touch with any previous members, we hope you will also reach out and invite them to join us.

There will be refreshments served following the service, allowing time to socialize. We look forward to seeing you and your family at our special service on April 28 at 9:30 am.

ANNIVERSARY DISPLAY: For Anniversary Sunday, there will be a display of items from the Archives of the Church including Commemorative Coins from the 150th Anniversary of Fonthill United Church. These will be for sale:

- A boxed silver coin (market value \$10) available for \$10.00
- A boxed commemorative set of 3 coins, gold, antique silver, copper (no market value) available for \$5.00.

Proceeds from the sale will go to helping with needed repairs to the building, so we hope you will consider making a purchase.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE will be held by the Pelham Garden Club at Fonthill United Church on Saturday May 18 from 8 am to noon. Come for an amazing selection of plants for sale, plus baking and lawn sale. Cash only.

CHURCH WASHROOMS: We would like to remind the congregation to not use the washrooms at the church off the lower hall during school hours. These are designated for school use to protect the safety of the children. There is a washroom upstairs beside the gym and a washroom downstairs by the offices which can be used by the congregation if you are in the church Monday to Friday during the day. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED		
Monday April 22	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	4:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	Pelham Garden Club
Tuesday April 23	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	4:00 pm	Music Lessons (Friendship Rm.)
Wednesday April 24	6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
Thursday April 25	6:00 pm	Cubs & Beavers
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
Friday April 26	4:45 pm	Sportball
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	1:00 pm	Music Lessons
Saturday April 27	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	11:00 am	Music Lessons
Sunday April 28	9:30 am	Worship Service – Anniversary Service

JOIN US TODAY: Your Council has been discussing how to best move forward following the decision not to amalgamate with Fenwick United Church. We are also gathering information to help us determine which type of ministry would best support us in the future. Your views are very important as we contemplate our future. To get your feedback, we will have a member of Council at each table **during coffee hour today**. They will be there to listen and record your thoughts. To help frame the conversations and keep us focused, we ask you to consider the following questions:

1. How do we see ourselves...Last gasp OR New ministry opportunity?
2. What do you see as our most important objectives?
3. What do you think God is calling us to do?
4. What are our most treasured traditions?
5. What are we willing to change and what **MUST** we keep?
6. What could we contribute to a new ministry?
7. What role would you be willing to take on to help in our ministry?

If you are unable to stay today, your views are still very important, so please send your feedback to Lyn Taylor, or to the church office at fonthilu@vaxxine.com.

Once all the information has been reviewed, we will be forming a Search Committee to look for a new minister. We are hoping to have a progress report for you in the May Grapevine on what we learned and how we plan to move forward.

**TO MAKE A DONATION TO FONTHILL UNITED CHURCH,
YOU ARE WELCOME TO:**

- 1) Mail a cheque to the church at: Fonthill United Church, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0.
- 2) Drop your cheque donation, anytime, through the mail slot in the exterior office door at the church.
- 3) Bring cash donations into the office when the church office is open.
- 4) Send an e-transfer to: fonthilu@vaxxine.com.
- 5) Sign up for the pre-authorized remittance program (PAR).
Contact the church office to register.

Donations on Sundays may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the sanctuary. We thank you for your support!

Fonthill United Church

Sunday April 21, 2024

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*Change takes all of us.
Each action brings hope!*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office 905 892-6433
Office Email fonthilu@vaxxine.com
Church address 42 Church Hill, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0