

**BULLETIN NOTATIONS**

**VU**-Voices United Hymn Book | **MV**-More Voices Hymn Book  
Music printed & streamed with permission  
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**\* Indicates to please stand, if able**

~ Let us welcome Rev. George Schmidt for leading us this morning. ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**INTROIT:** Tune HWC 101

**His name is Wonderful, His name is Wonderful,  
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord;  
He is the mighty King, Master of everything,  
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,  
Almighty God is He;  
Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,  
His name is Wonderful Jesus, my Lord.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(responsively)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

By the grace of God, we are called together in this place

**We are summoned to worship with joy and thanksgiving.**

By the grace of God we are united in a common mission.

**We are summoned to bring our whole selves to the work of  
worship.**

By the grace of God, we come just as we are – beautiful and broken.

**We gather to give praise to our Creator, Redeemer, and  
Sustainer.**

Let us pray.

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GATHERING PRAYER:

Into your Presence we come, not by the deeds we have done, but by your grace and your grace alone, into your Presence we come. We come as we are Father, to worship you in the splendour of your holiness. We see you as Isaiah did, you high and lifted up. We confess that our earthly worship is but a shadow of the heavenly reality. May what we offer be for your glory alone, through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE:** VU 232 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore You”

**TIME OF REFLECTION and CONFESSION**

**Holy and Gracious God,  
It is far easier to judge the sin of someone else than it is to confess  
the sin that belongs to us.  
Forgive us for the times when we've been judgmental.  
Forgive us for the times when we've been self-righteous.  
Forgive us for the times when we've fallen short of the mercy you  
show us. Forgive us. Restore and Renew us. This we pray through  
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silent Reflection*

**HYMN:** VU 663 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

**My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour Divine.  
Now hear me as I pray, take all my guilt away.  
O let me from this day be wholly thine.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Peter once said to Jesus: Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinner. Jesus did just the opposite—he walked with Peter and loved him relentlessly. Jesus does the same with us. On the authority of God's, I tell you this day that your sins, my sins, our sins are forgiven. **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*READER: Joan Wells*

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Open My Eyes That I May See” ~ *J. Carter*

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)*

**Giver of every good and perfect, bless and use what we offer, and use us to share the good news, in word and action. We pray in Jesus’ name. 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 499 “O Christ, the Word Incarnate”

MESSAGE: “Just the Facts”

**\*CLOSING HYMN VU 675:** “Will Your Anchor Hold”

**\*BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

**AFTER WORSHIP,** everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship on the lower level.

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

**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

**REMINDER:** Everyone is asked to please wear your name tags at church on Sundays, to make it easier for newcomers to remember your name.

**BIRTHDAYS:** If you are new to the congregation and would like to be included in the monthly birthday acknowledgements in the bulletin, please contact Sandra in the office so she can add you to the list.

### **ONTARIO ELECTION FEB. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025:**

In May of last year, we were approached by Elections Ontario to become a polling station for future Provincial and Federal Elections. The request was reviewed in detail and Council approved. Voters will enter by the front door and proceed directly to the upper hall. The lower level is off limits. The setting up will occur during the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> and we expect they will be out of the building late on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Tenants who use the building during these times have been advised accordingly.

The Election team has indicated they do require additional staff and would welcome church members who wish to apply. They require Registration Officers, Greeters and Deputy Returning Officers. Pay is \$19.37 per hour and the experience is priceless. If you are interested, please contact Robert Ciarlo at Elections Ontario. His phone number is 289-237-0324. His email is [robertciarlo@gmail.com](mailto:robertciarlo@gmail.com). Let him know you are prepared to work at the polling station in Fonthill United Church. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Jim Bradley

**THE FRIENDSHIP GROUP:** is planning its annual partaking of the Port Colborne Operatic Society's musical performance. This year they are doing Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" and group rate tickets are available for \$27 each for the Sunday matinee show at 2:00 p.m. on March 2, 2025. As has been our custom, we gather afterwards for dinner at the Swiss Chalet in Welland, but this is optional. The Friendship Group welcomes anyone who wishes to join us for the outing and 20 excellent seats have been reserved. These will be sold on a first come, first served basis. For tickets please contact: Bob Laing.

**THE MEXICAN TRAIN GAME – A DOMINOES GAME:** is continuing on February 17th at 2 pm in the Friendship Room. We are going to learn (if you don't already know how to play) an afternoon of fun and friendship. Come and join the fun, there will be prizes and refreshments. It will continue every other week. So the next game will be March 3rd.

**EUCHRE:** Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for pros and beginners, come and play and be social. Bring a friend, there will be prizes and refreshments. If you don't know how to play we will teach you. It will continue every other week. Next one March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**"THE GREEN BOOK" MOVIE:** In acknowledgement of Black History Month, we are showing this movie on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Friendship Room. It is based on the book that listed the places a black person was allowed to stay. We will have a short social time and discussion after the movie. Popcorn and drinks will be available so come and enjoy.

**"SMALL GREAT THINGS" BY JODI PICOULT:** In acknowledgement of Black History Month, there will be a discussion of this book on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Friendship Room. The book is available at the library; we hope you will enjoy the read and participate in the discussion. Coffee/tea and snacks will be provided.

**THE OUTSIDE SIGN:** Dick Hamilton has kindly committed to changing the message on the outside sign at the front of our church property on a weekly basis. We are looking for someone who would be willing to fill in for him when he is away or is otherwise unable to make the changes. If you can help out please contact Dick directly. He will be able to show you what is involved.

**OFFICIAL TAX RECEIPTS:** Are ready to be picked up in your individual mail slots. If you don't currently have a mail slot, please speak to Sandra and alternate arrangements can be made.

**\*\*If you have experienced any difficulty accessing the church website lately, please know the problems have been corrected.\*\***

**THE WALKING GROUP:** Calling all people! Come walk with us on Thursdays at 10am at the Meridian Centre followed at 11:45am at McDonald’s for a coffee and conversation. If you can’t come for the walk, come for the talk! We look forward to seeing you there!

**UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS**

Feb. 23 – 9:30 am    Sunday Service  
Mar. 2 – 9:30 am    Sunday Service  
Mar. 9 – 9:30 am    Sunday Service

**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](mailto: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!***

**THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED**

Monday Feb 17	2:00 pm	Dominoes
Tuesday Feb 18	8:00 am	Montessori School
	9:00 am	Badminton
Wednesday Feb 19	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	8:00 am	Montessori School
	1:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	1:30 pm	Movie “The Green Book”
	2:30 pm	Music Lessons
	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	A Cappella Practice
Thursday Feb 20	6:00 pm	Cubs
	8:00 am	Montessori School
	9:00 am	Badminton
	10:00 am	Garden Club
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
Friday Feb 21	8:00 am	Montessori School
	12:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
Saturday Feb 22	11:00 am	Music Lessons
Sunday Feb 23	9:30 am	Sunday Service with Rev. George Schmidt

**\*Please note that these rentals while happening in the church, are not to be attended by the congregation (as they are not put on by the church) unless there is an express invite.\***

# Fonthill United Church

February 16, 2025

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Words inspire us. Music uplifts us.  
United in God's love,  
we strive to be an inclusive community,  
learning together and supporting others with compassion.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Church Office ..... 905 892-6433  
Office Email ..... fonthilu@vaxxine.com  
Church address ..... 42 Church Hill, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0  
Website ..... www.fonthillunited.com  
Facebook ..... www.facebook.com/Fonthlu