

**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*

*Lent, the period leading up to Easter, gives us the opportunity to remember Jesus' life, death and resurrection. To look with wonder and awe at his life on earth and to sit with the discomfort of his sacrifice on the cross, so when it comes to Easter morning, we are ready to rejoice in the Resurrection.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Then Jesus said to his disciples, **"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."**

**Take up your cross the Saviour said, (sung) VU 561**  
**If you would my disciples be.**  
**Take up your cross with willing heart**  
**And humbly follow after me.**

We extinguish the second candle on the cross this morning to remember that taking up our cross in service to Jesus seems to put us in the shadow of His cross that grew darker as events led Him to Calvary.

**But we know that His love is more powerful than any cross.**

**Amazing Love How Can It Be (sung) HWC 203**  
**that thou my God shouldst die for me!**

Let us worship. Let us pray.

**We come,**  
**trusting in Your mercy and love, longing to know You better and to**  
**learn more about Your ways.**

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**"Heavenly Father, as we continue through this Lenten season, help us to fast from those things that keep us far from You and feast on the things that draw us closer to You. Grant, we pray, that our penances will purify us to receive the power of Christ's resurrection. We come, to be guided in the ways of Your truth— aware of Your steadfast love helping us to overcome the trials and temptations which can descend on us at any time.**  
**Lead us, O God, to do what is right in your eyes and teach us to follow the humble way of Christ, Your beloved Son, In His Name we pray. Amen .**

**HYMN:** "For The Healing of The Nations" VU 678

**TIME OF REFLECTION and CONFESSION**

Let us pray together:

**Most merciful God,**  
**whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet without sin,**  
**we confess before you that we have sinned;**  
**we have hungered after that which does not satisfy;**  
**we have compromised with evil;**  
**we have doubted your power to protect us.**  
**Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness.**  
**Restore in us such love and trust that we may walk in your ways**  
**and delight in doing your will.**

*Silent reflection*

**Still the Small Inward Voice to Hear Tune HWC 203**  
**that whispers all my sins forgiven.**  
**Still the atoning blood is near**  
**that quenched the wrath of hostile heaven.**  
**I feel the life His wounds impart.**  
**I feel the Saviour in my heart.**  
**Amazing love how can it be**  
**that thou my God shouldst die for me!**

**RESPONSIVE READING: VU pg. 844 "Psalm 121"**

*READER: George Dewar*

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Mark 14:1-11

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, 'Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.'

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "Behold the Beauty of the Lord" ~WH Anderson

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.**

Let us pray.

**\*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).*

**HYMN:** VU 593 "Jesu Jesu"

MESSAGE: "Mary's Cross"

**\*CLOSING HYMN: VU 142** "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"

**\*BENEDICTION**

Please join us in the Friendship Room after you grab coffee for a look at Paul's Letter to the Philippians. "Finding Hope in a Difficult World" Copies of The Lenten Challenge for 2025 are available if you missed them last week or don't wish to print them off from the email on your computer.

**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.

**BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT:** Following the worship service. Those interested are invited to gather in the Friendship Room with your coffee at 11 for a look at Philippians. "How to Have Hope in Difficult Times". Continuing this Sunday, March 16th.

**EUCHRE & GAMES DAY:** Continuing on Tuesday, March 18th at 2pm and continuing every Tuesday following. Tea/Coffee served at 3pm. Dominoes, euchre, and more, your choice. Bring your game faces and enjoy the fellowship that playing games inspires.

**THE WALKING GROUP:** Calling all people! Come walk with us on Thursdays at 10am at the Meridian Centre followed at 10:45am 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!

**WELCOME HOSPICE NIAGARA!** Open to all men and women! On Wednesday, March 19th at Pelham Community Church (461 Canboro St., Fenwick). Coffee starting at 9:30am and welcoming Carol Nagy from Hospice Niagara starting at 10am. For more information contact the office at: [office@pelham.cc](mailto:office@pelham.cc).

**FREE EVENT – NAVIGATING THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM WITH A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:** 7 keys for more choice and control. Join Dr. Sammy Winemaker and Dr. Hsien Seow for a FREE event to learn the 7 keys to take charge so you can be hopeful and prepared every step of the way. Designed to help individuals and their caregivers navigate the healthcare system for those living with a long-term illness. Ask questions and gain valuable insights. Held at Club Italia Event Centre, 2525 Montrose Rd, Niagara Falls. Thursday, April 10th 4-8pm. 4-6pm,

the chance to check out other booths with other providers and organizations will be available to speak with and ask questions as well as offering pizza for dinner. Speakers start at 6-7pm, Book signing at 7-7:30pm. Register at: [waitingroomrevolution.com/events](http://waitingroomrevolution.com/events).

**"MAYBE ONE?":** A play by Scott Douglas (adapted by Cathie Ellarby, new ending by Diane Walker) presented by Central United Church (located at 30 Delhi St., Port Colborne) on Saturday, April 5th at 2pm. "Where we came from – how we got here". Part of the 100th Anniversary celebration. Light refreshments to follow.

**CHORALIS CAMERATA:** W.A. Mozart Requiem. Sunday, March 23rd at 2pm at the Trillium United Church (415 Linwell Rd., St. Catharines). Tickets: Adult \$25, Senior \$22, Student \$10, advance tickets: [choraliscamerata@gmail.com](mailto:choraliscamerata@gmail.com). Website: [www.choraliscamerata.com](http://www.choraliscamerata.com) (905) 931-9225.

**SENSIBLE WAY TO WELLNESS:** This event is taking place on March 27th at 10:30am. The sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Please sign up if you are interested in attending.

**FENWICK UNITED:** invites you to Afternoon Tea on Saturday, April 12 from 1-3pm (doors open at 12:30pm) at 1050 Church St, Fenwick. Join us for a 3 course afternoon tea (including sandwiches, scones, clotted cream, jam and desserts. Gluten free options are available but must be indicated at the time of booking. \$35/pp. no tickets at the door, no refunds. Please call Julie at (289) 820-9657 or email: [gvalleyjean@gmail.com](mailto:gvalleyjean@gmail.com) and payment can be made by e-transfer. All proceeds go to the Fenwick United Church Women's Outreach.

**TAIZÉ:** services will be held at Fenwick United Church during Lent on March 27, April 3, 10, 17. All services will begin at 6:30 and last about 30 minutes. Taizé services are quiet, contemplative services of music, scripture and prayer. Everyone is invited to attend.

**OPEN ARMS MISSION FUNDRAISER:** Join us for an evening of songs, special music and more! Who?: Barn Boyz and Friends, When?: Friday, March 21st at 7pm, Where?: First Baptist Church, 165 Sydney Place, Welland. Support Open Arms Mission with a Free Will Offering!

### **UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS**

Mar 23 – 9:30 am Sunday Service

Mar 30 – 9:30 am Sunday Service

Apr 6 – 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.
- 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 Mar 17	8:00 am	Pre-School
	4:00 pm	Music Lessons
	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
Tuesday Mar 18	8:00 am	Pre-School
	9:00 am	Badminton
	1:30 pm	Council Mtg.
	2:00 pm	Games & Social
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
Wednesday Mar 19	8:00 am	Pre-School
	1:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	2:30 pm	Music Lessons
	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	Cubs
Thursday Mar 20	6:00 pm	A Cappella Practice
	8:00 am	Pre-School
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessins
Friday Mar 21	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
	8:00 am	Pre-School
	12:30 pm	Music Lessons
Saturday Mar 22	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	11:00 am	Music Lessons
Sunday Mar 23	9:30 am	Sunday Service – Lent 3

**\*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

March 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