

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

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

“As my sufferings mounted I soon realized that there were two ways in which I could respond to my situation -- either to react with bitterness or seek to transform the suffering into a creative force. I decided to follow the latter course.”

— **Martin Luther King Jr.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We shine brighter after spending time with our light source, Jesus.

INTROIT: HWC 13 (refrain)

**Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me
bless His holy Name.
He has done great things. He has done great things.
He has done great things. Bless His holy Name.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you .

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

Let us pray.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

-2-

Gracious Creator God, Thank you for the wonderful season of spring. During this invigorating time, we ask You for a fresh beginning in each of our hearts. Please allow each of us, as Christians, to bloom in Your word, just as the flowers are blooming. Help us to be witnesses whenever there is an opportunity, and followers of Your word every day. Let our petals continuously grow and our leaves steadily extend, as we work to gather more and more seedlings for Your harvest. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE VU 218: “We Praise You, O God”**

TIME OF REFLECTION and CONFESSION

The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.” Marianne Williamson

Confession is one of the most profound and transformative sacraments in the Christian faith. It offers a sacred space where we can humbly acknowledge our sins, receive divine mercy, and experience spiritual renewal.

Heavenly Father, I ask for the light of Your Holy Spirit as I examine my conscience. Reveal to me the areas of my life where I have fallen short of Your glory. Help me acknowledge my sins without excuses and approach confession with a pure heart.

Silent Reflection

Gracious God, I am humbled by Your forgiveness and love. Help me to carry a heart full of gratitude for the new life You give me through confession. Let my thankfulness lead me to glorify You in all that I do. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 98 VU 818

Lay Reader: Sheila Laundry

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 2:1-13

2 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. **2** They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. **3** Some men came, bringing to him a

paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, ¹¹ "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

¹³ Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them.

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "One Step He Leads" ~ P. Chaplin

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 636:** "Give to the Winds Your Fears"

MESSAGE: 3 Kinds of Healing

***CLOSING HYMN VU 574:** "Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love"

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

**Bible Study will resume with a look at James today, May 18th, from
11-12pm in the Friendship Room.**

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

The ministerial search team is ready to make a recommendation to our community of faith. The governing body calls a meeting of Fonthill United Church on June 1, 2025, to consider the recommendation of the search team. The meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m. with a modified church service to follow the meeting.

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Fonthill United Church will be holding a FOOD DRIVE for Pelham Cares on Saturday, June 7 from 10 am - 12 pm in the west parking lot. Food items, as well as cleaning and personal care items, will be gratefully accepted. Please make out cheques to Fonthill United Church and add on the memo line that it's for Pelham Cares. Bring a lawn chair, a cup of coffee, and enjoy a visit with your friends at Fonthill United.



THE BOOK CLUB'S BOOK: to be reviewed on June 3rd at 2 p.m. is Mrs. Van Gough by Caroline Cauchi. This is our last discussion until Sept. so we will be choosing the books for the summer and next year.

SPRING MARKET ON CANBORO: Please join us on Saturday, May 31st from 9-1pm at Pelham Community Church located at: 461 Canboro Rd, Fenwick, for a BBQ, Baking, Crafters, Books, Puzzles and New to You tables.

Ross McCarthy Memorial Men's Breakfast: Held at Pelham Community Church, 461 Canboro Rd., Fenwick on Saturday, May 24, 2025. 8am – Coffee, 8:30am - Breakfast. Guest Speaker: Paul Furtney.

The Outreach and Membership committee are planning a dinner in June when the lower hall is available. Date to be announced!

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

May 25 – 9:30 am Sunday Service
Jun 1 – 9:30 am Sunday Service &
Congregational Meeting
Jun 8 – 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 May 19	Victoria Day	
Tuesday May 20	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	2:00 pm	Games & Social
	7:00 pm	Council Mtg
Wednesday May 21	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	1:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	2:30 pm	Music Lessons
	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	Cubs
Thursday May 22	6:00 pm	A Cappella Practice
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	10:00 am	Walking Group
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
Friday May 23	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	12:30 pm	Music Lessons
Saturday May 24	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	11:00 am	Music Lessons
Sunday May 25	8:00 am	Garden Club Plant & Bake Sale
	9:30 am	Sunday Service

Fonthill United Church

May 18, 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