

Fenwick and Fonthill United Churches  
Joint Summer Services

Fenwick Minister: Rev. Dr. Garry van Bruchem

Fonthill Minister: Rowena Hetherington-Wilson

Fenwick and Fonthill Director of Music: William Outred

Fenwick Children's Ministry Leader: Kevin O'Sullivan

*Music printed & streamed with permission under CCLI #11009116*

*\* Indicates please stand, if able*

August 10, 2025

Proper 14

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*GATHERING HYMN VU 216:** "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

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

Gather before God, people of the covenant.

Listen for God's Word, O faithful ones.

**God has summoned us to this place.**

**We believe God will speak to us here.**

Come to honour God and give thanks.

Seek to learn and follow in God's way.

**We come as willing and obedient servants.**

**Let your steadfast love, O God, be upon us.**

God calls us as workers for justice.

God sends us out as advocates for the dispossessed.

**We are here to be equipped for ministry.**

**We expect to be empowered for our service.**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**GATHERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

God of grace,

**who are we that you should care for us?**

-2-

Yet you surprise us with grace,

infuse us with hope,

and teach us a better way.

Make us ever more faithful,

and ever more grateful,

as we watch for the coming of your Son.

Holy God,

by your Spirit enlighten us;

illumine us; inspire us; not for our sakes,

but for the sake of Jesus Christ,

who taught us to pray as we say...

Our Father...

WE LISTEN

**RESPONSIVE PSALM 33 - VU pg. 760** READER: Brian Walker

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 15: 1-6 READER: Brian Walker

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**HYMN VU pg. 780:** "My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone" (Psalm 62) - seated

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 12: 32-40 READER: Rev Garry van Bruchem

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms.

“Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

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

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

### **WE RESPOND**

**\*HYMN VU 660:** “How Firm a Foundation”

MINUTE FOR MISSION: General Council 45 Visions and Dreams

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

**\*SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 542

**We give you but your own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone,  
we give it gratefully.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** *(in unison)*

**Generous God, you pour out blessing  
and cover us with gifts of love.**

**Accept these offerings for the sake of your children,  
that they may proclaim your mercy  
and embody your grace.**

**In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO PRAYER:** VU 374 vs. 1

**Come and find the quiet centre  
in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.**

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### **WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN VU 642:** “Be Thou My Vision”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*3-FOLD AMEN**

POSTLUDE

**FOLLOWING THE SERVICE TODAY,**  
we invite everyone downstairs  
for refreshments and fellowship.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME** the Fonthill and Fenwick United Church congregations to our joint summer worship service. All the services in August will be in Fonthill at 10:00 am.

**FONTHILL NEWS:** For information purposes, we wish to advise that a standard construction bin will be placed on the paved roadway, at the east end of the church property, while renovations are taking place in the Board and Friendship Rooms. This location was deemed the most appropriate when considering the distance old drywall and other materials being removed had to be carried. The bin will be removed as soon as work is completed. - *Thanks, Jim Bradley*

**GOSPEL CONCERTS:** The Pelham Clergy Fellowship is sponsoring a bandshell concert in Peace Park in Fonthill today, Sunday August 10 at 3:00 pm. The concert is free and everyone is invited to attend. In case of rain, the concert will be held at St. Alexander RC church.

### **FONTHILL AUGUST BIRTHDAY WISHES**

2 Jim Bradley	4 Nancy Curran
5 Bob Richardson	7 Wendy Crossfield
8 Mary Lou Crysler	10 Helen Wismer
13 Karen Campbell	17 Liz Dalton
25 Russell Jesik	27 Lou Gaudier



### **FENWICK UNITED CHURCH**

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