

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

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

Advent II - PEACE

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Gather

***GATHERING HYMN:** VU 18 “There is a Voice in the Wilderness”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Today we continue a journey of waiting, hoping, and anticipating.

With God, we embark on a journey of peace.

Today we seek new insights and new understandings.

We give thanks for the ways in which God has brought us to this moment.

Today we are clear that we are not alone. God is among us, drawing us into a time of renewal and opening us to a moment of grace.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

**HYMN: VU 7 “Hope is a Star” (vs 2 only)*

OPENING PRAYER:

We pray for peace,
in a world that feels tumultuous:

**God, grant us a vision of your future,
so we may be people of peace.**

**Let it give us calm in times of chaos
and gratitude in times of reconciliation.
Amen.**

**HYMN: VU p. 882 “Prepare the way”*

We Listen

-2-

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12

READER: George Dewar

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

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Advent Prayer” arr. By Patrick M. Liebergen

MESSAGE: “Preparing the Way”

**HYMN: VU 8 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*

We Respond

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 81 “As with Gladness Men of Old” (vs 3)

**As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

OFFERING PRAYER:

**We never know, living Christ, whether what we offer is enough. Still,
we present these gifts for your work in the world, trusting that you
will bless them—and us—for your purpose. May these gifts seed
new life springing out of old stumps. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer (VU 914) - *spoken*

We Go Out to Serve

***CLOSING HYMN:** VU 28 “Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness”

**BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

are available on the pew as you enter the sanctuary.

AFTER WORSHIP, everyone is invited to stay
for refreshments and fellowship
in the Lower Hall 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.

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Dec 7 – 7pm Carol Sing @ Fenwick United
Dec 14 – 9:30 am Worship Service
Dec 21 – 9:30 am Worship Service
Dec 28 – 11:00 am Joint Service at Fenwick United

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are looking for volunteers to take turns running the slides for the screens for the weekly church service. We are hoping to have 3-4 people to take turns so it will not be onerous for any one person.

If you are interested in helping out please let Lyn Taylor or the church office know. Training will be provided and it is really very simple to operate so don't be intimidated. If you have a grandchild or any other young person who may be interested in volunteer hours they would also be welcome to assist.

On Monday, December 1, twelve people from our congregation attended a training session on how to use the defibrillator which included some CPR training and other first aid tips. A special thank

you goes to Margot Fraser, Janet Hamilton, Karen Tennant, Sharron Bradley, Debbie Stock, Ralph Watters, Wendy Audette, Helen Wismer, Sandra Harding, Betty Garner, and Judy Crysler. I also participated in the training. The defibrillator is located on the wall in the Narthex, by the elevator. It has been checked, we have new pads installed and everything is in good working order. I hope we never have to use it but it is comforting to know it is available and we have people trained and willing to step up if needed. Lyn Taylor, Chair of Council.

UCW meeting December 10: Please note we will meet at Janet Hamilton's house at 12:00.

GAMES IN THE AFTERNOON: Tuesdays at 2pm in the Friendship room. Come out and join the fun! ****Please note that there will not be Games in the Afternoon from Dec 16-Jan 6.****

The Christmas Tree in the Narthex has been named the "Memory Tree". For those that purchased a cardinal last year, there is **NO NEED TO PURCHASE ANOTHER ONE** – there is one placed on the tree for you already. I have purchased a supply of cardinals which will be available for \$10.00 each to represent a loved one(s). The idea here is to have the tree filled with cardinals. Please contact Heather Jesik by email or the church if you are interested in purchasing one. Please provide me with the name of person(s) in Memoriam as well as I will be framing the names. Cardinals can be purchased up **until December 8**. Thank you for your support. *Sincerely, Heather Jesik.*

PELHAM CARES CHRISTMAS DRIVE: Each year, Pelham Cares holds a drive to help provide toys for children at Christmas. If you would like to donate towards this drive, there is a drop box in the Narthex where you can place your donation; monetary donations only please, no toys. Cheques may be made payable to Fonthill United Church. You can also do an E-transfer. Please do not leave cash for safety reasons, as the box will remain in the Narthex for the duration of the drive. **Cut off date is Dec 10th** – *Sponsored by the Worship Committee*

ADOPT-A-FAMILY 2025: This program is designed to give children of a less fortunate family a wonderful Christmas. Last year we adopted a family of 5, four children and a single mom. The congregation was very generous and we made a family very happy. This year our family consists of a single mom, two little girls, aged 11 and 6 and two boys aged 14 and 8. We provide a grocery store gift card of \$100.00 for the main holiday meal. We also give as much dry goods as can be donated. We provide a large gift of \$60.00 and a small gift of \$30.00, and stocking stuffers for each child. Gift cards are a big hit. We try to include some items for the mom.

There is a donation box for money* in the narthex and a basket for all other donations. There is a list of suggested items. Please take a sheet and see what you would like to give.

*** Please make cheques payable to Fonthill United Church. It will be recorded for your tax receipt.**

CHORALIS CAMERATA PRESENTS: The Spirit of Christmas on Saturday, December 13th. Concert: 7:30pm Doors: 7:00pm. At St. Andrew's United Church – Morrison St., Niagara Falls. Tickets – Adult: \$28; Senior: \$25; and Student: \$12. For more information contact (905) 327-8600. choraliscamerata@gmail.com.

“LEGALLY BLONDE”: Tickets are now available from Bob Laing or in person for the Port Colborne Operatic Society's production of the Broadway hit “Funny Girl”. The Friendship Group usually invites anyone to join with us on Sunday, March 1, 2026. The performance begins at 2:00 pm and the group will dine at the Welland Swiss Chalet after the show. Show tickets are the group rate of \$25 each and the seats are excellent – all of row C and 5 in the centre of row D. These are first come first served and would make an enjoyable addition to your Christmas gift list so friends and relatives are welcome.

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

Church Office Hours for this week:

Mon-Fri - 8-12pm

Please call before coming in to ensure your needs can be met

**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.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED

Monday Dec 8	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	4:00 pm	Music Lessons
	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	6:30 pm	Garden Club
Tuesday Dec 9	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	2:00 pm	Afternoon Games
	6:00 pm	A Cappella Practice
	6:00 pm	Greenbelt Prop Mgt.
Wednesday Dec 10	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	1:00 pm	UCW Meeting
	1:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	2:30 pm	Music Lessons
	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	Cubs
	6:00 pm	A Cappella Practice
	6:00 pm	Montessori Preschool
Thursday Dec 11	9:00 am	Badminton
	10:00 am	Walking Group
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
	4:30 pm	Music Lessons
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	12:30 pm	Music Lessons
Friday Dec 12	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	11:00 am	Music Lessons
Saturday Dec 13	9:30 am	Sunday Service – Advent II
Sunday Dec 14		Christmas Musical Sunday

Fonthill United Church

December 7, 2025 – Advent II

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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