

St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. June 12th, 2016

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer *

Prelude

We Gather in Community

***Greeting**

In the morning God hears my voice.

In that I rejoice.

I praise God for the abundance of God's steadfast love.

I will worship God with all my being.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

People of God, raise your voices in praise to God.

God takes delight in our presence here.

Come and enter God's house.

We come trusting in the steadfast love of God.

Let us worship the God of love and righteousness.

Let us worship the God of grace and forgiveness.

Introit:

Dance with the Spirit(X2)

MV 156

Dance with the Spirit early in the morning,

Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,

Work and hope for a new life a-bornin',

Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

Prayer of Approach

Lord's Prayer

Time for the Young at Heart

*Story Time Hymn: When Morning Gilds the Skies VU 339

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves from reaching out to those who need your care. We take your words – that there will always be unmet needs – as a reason not to try to meet the needs we can. Forgive us, and help us to change. Renew our determination to live as faithful followers, faithful disciples, faithful Christians. Help us to work with you for the well-being of your creation, that the fortunes of all your peoples may be restored. This we pray, in the name of the One Forgiver of all our debts, Jesus the Christ. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

*Sung Prayer for Grace: (Tune VU #437)

*We come to you with hearts that are open,
To you, and to each other here.
We seek, dear Lord, your grace upon us,
That we may love you and know you are near.*

First Lesson: Galatians 2:15-21 Chris Walker

One: Herein is Wisdom

All: Thanks be to God

Anthem

Second Lesson: Luke 7:36-8:3 Pastor Sarah

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ

Message Freedom in Forgiveness Pastor Sarah

Affirmation of Faith

VU 918

*Hymn:

I am a Child of God

MV 157

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offering

*Dedication Verse:

Grant Us, God, The Grace

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.*

*Dedication of the Offering

Giver of the most expensive gift of all, accept these humble offerings we pray, and help us to learn from you. May we who are so adept at catering for our own wants, make ourselves more vulnerable to the needs of others. Let us live unselfishly and more sensitively, that we may spread love's fragrance wherever the odour cynicism and despair hangs in the air. Through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, AMEN.

Prayers of the People

*Hymn:

For Freedom, Christ has set us free!

(Tune of VU 626)

"For freedom, Christ has set us free!"

What joy is ours to claim!

No more enslaved, humanity

Finds life in Jesus' name.

We try, Lord, to be justified

Through all the works we do.

Yet you adopt us, saying, "Child,

It's Christ who makes you new."

*We're clothed in Christ and we belong;
Now no one waits outside.
In him we find our common song;
Old ways no more divide.
"It is no longer I who live,
But Christ who lives in me."
He died for us, new life to give —
And new identity.*

*Now, Spirit-filled, may we be led
From ways that would destroy.
May we your people turn instead
To lives of love and joy.
May we find peace that makes us whole
And patience everywhere.
God, give us kindness, self-control,
And hearts and hands that share.*

Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

When we go out into this world to serve God's mission, remember that it is no longer we who live,
but Christ who lives in us.

The life we now live in the flesh

we live by faith in the Son of God loves us and gave himself for us.

May the grace of God which daily renews us, and the love of Jesus that enables us to love all others, and the community of the Holy Spirit that unites us into one body

enable and empower us to obey the will of God, now and forever; Amen.

(inspired by Galatians 2:15-21)

***Choral Closing:** Spirit of Life

VU 381

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Postlude

AnnouAnnouncement

Sunday School Picnic: June 19th at Stepping Stones in the Park. We are gathering from 12 PM – 3 PM following worship at the park. There will be a BBQ, games and cake!

Do you have questions? About Jesus? Christianity? The United Church? Or anything else??? Well, we have questions too! And we think questions are awesome! That's exactly what our new recurring series is all about - *asking questions*. "Coffee Talk" will be a recurring Sunday morning forum, held at **9am at Read's Newsstand & Cafe**, where we will address, discuss, and wrestle with *your* questions. There is no better way to learn than by asking questions and engaging in discussion. At Downtown United we're all about creating an environment where both inquiry and conversation can take place. So, if you've got a question you're just itching to discuss, throw it our way! Just write it down and toss it in our question pot during coffee hour, or get it to Rev. Richard or Pastor Sarah via the church office. **First Coffee Talk will be Sunday, July 10th, 9am at Read's Newsstand & Cafe.**

Downtown United starts on Sunday June 26th. We will be gathering with our brothers and sisters at Wilmot from June 26th – July 24th. All are encouraged to join in these times of worship and fellowship as we celebrate the Christ who walks beside us.

Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 14th, 7 PM in the Ladies' Parlour

Men's Discussion Group: Monday, June 6th at 6:45 p.m.

Congregational Meeting: Today following the Worship Service in Fraser Memorial Hall

Gibson Memorial United Church, 183 Gibson St, will be hosting a

“Steak & Chicken BBQ” on Wednesday, June 22, 4 – 6 pm. Cost \$13/adult and \$3/child. Please call [457-1951](tel:457-1951) to reserve your tickets.