

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
July 23rd, 2023

Praise Medley: More Precious Than Silver, You Are Near,
The Butterfly Song, When He Cometh

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary

Call to Worship:

In the good times, in the bad times, in the ups and downs,

God is with us.

When we are running away,

God is with us.

When we are doing well,

God is with us.

When we are wracked with guilt and shame,

God is with us.

When we are struggling to make the right choices,

God is with us.

Come, let us worship the God who is always with us.

Opening Prayer:

Loving God, you surround us, and we are grateful. No matter where we find ourselves, you are there: we are never abandoned but are kept in your loving arms. Even when we fear the cold of night you embrace us, for darkness and light are both safe places so long as we are in your care. Search us, know our hearts, and lead us in ways that are everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet **VU 245**

Prayer of Confession and Pardon:

Dear God, you have looked within our hearts, and you know us.

That can be a scary thought! There are things about ourselves that we wish we could hide.

You know when we are resting or when we are working,

You know all about us.

You know when we are telling the truth,

And when we are not.

Even before we speak,

You know what we are going to say.

There is nowhere that we can hide from you.

So we should not try and hide, but face you openly and honestly.

Here we are, God.

Hear this good news: we are God's beloved children. When we turn to God in truth, God forgives us, and leads us on the right paths.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offertory: All That We Have

Offertory Prayer:

To you, loving God, we offer the gifts of our service. Take the labour of our hands, the skill of our minds, and the power of our organization. Cleanse us of pride, and awaken us from indifference, that refined by your grace we may become better servants of your realm. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86 **page 803 of VU**
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling **VU 333**

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Hymn: My Life Flows On **VU 716**

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Pray Response: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Hymn: When We All Get to Heaven

Benediction