

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
October 15th, 2023**

Praise Medley: Celebrate Today, Build Your Kingdom Here
Each Step of the Way, I am the Dream

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: Rejoice in the Lord Always **VU 249**

Call to Worship:

You invite us to worship, O God, and we rejoice.

We set the anxieties of our daily lives aside.

You invite us to worship, O God, and we give thanks.

We realize the full extent of your wonderful gifts.

You invite us to worship, O God, and we open ourselves.

**We experience your love so graciously shown in
Jesus.**

You invite us to worship, O God, and we respond.

Let us praise God with our lips and our lives!

Prayer of Approach:

**Gracious God, like a parent you nurture and encourage us.
Through your word and spirit, you show us new
possibilities. Strengthen us through our worship and
reflection, to grow in understanding and in love, that we
may be agents of your love, in all the world. Amen.**

Hymn: Just as I Am **VU 508**

Prayer of Confession:

**There are so many obstacles to our faithfulness O God: We
like our comfortable and routine existence, and it is hard to
change. The invitation comes to try out new skills, to risk
faithfully, but we turn it down. Family and friends and social
commitments take up so much of our time, that we are not
open to new possibilities. Forgive us, God, when we miss
your call, your invitation to new adventures in faith to**

**partake in new experiences and dreams for your
world. (Silent reflection)**

Assurance of Pardon:

God daily offers us new beginnings. All we have to do is accept
the invitation. So rejoice! Step out and move on, filled with
courage and God's love.

We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God!

A Time for All Ages

Offertory: Count Your Blessings

Offertory Prayer:

**For food in a world where many walk in hunger; for faith in
a world where many walk in fear; for friends in a world
where many walk alone, we give you humble thanks, O
God. Amen.**

Scripture Readings:

Philippians 4:1-9

Psalm 106 on **page 830 of VU**

Matthew 22:1-14

Hymn: Seek Ye First the Kingdom **VU 356**

Meditation

Ministry of Music: Truth I'm Standing On

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Love Us into Fullness

Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness **VU 288**

Benediction