FIRST UNITED CHURCH, MOUNT PEARL

October 29th, 2023

Praise Medley: Companions On the Journey, In the Beginning

Was Love, In the Garden, If God Is for Us

Greetings and Announcements

Introit: Though I May Speak VU 372

Call to Worship:

Christ invites us to make our home in him as he makes his home in us.

Let us build our homes on the rock that is Jesus Christ. Then the storms of life will not bully us.

Hurricanes and floods will not destroy us.

Let the word of God dwell in us richly, in all wisdom,

As we love God with all our hearts, souls and minds, and love our neighbour as ourselves.

Hymn: Walk with Me VU 649

Prayer of Approach:

Holy and loving God, you have spoken to us through the pillar of cloud, silent whispers in the middle of night, prophetic voices of visionaries, and gentle words from Jesus of Nazareth. Speak to us in this time of worship that we may know of your message for us in this time and in this place. May our hearts and minds be uncluttered so that we may be open to the movement of your Spirit. Help us draw the circle wide and tell our story boldly. Amen.

A Time for All Ages

Prayer of Confession:

Jesus said, "love your neighbour as yourself."

We pray for your forgiveness, God, for we find the effort more damaging, the cost too high to share our love so deeply.

Jesus said, "Love God, with all your heart, with all your strength, with all your mind."

We pray for your forgiveness, God, for we sing, speak and pray words of love, yet act in the world for our own interest.

Jesus said, "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

We pray for your forgiveness, God, for we find your pathway of love too demanding. Grace us with your Spirit, in the name of Christ, that we might truly become your people. (silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon:

God's grace is boundless; God's forgiveness knows no limits; God's love overflows in spite of our apathy, our selfishness, our sin. God's promise incarnate in Jesus is that....

We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offering: An Offering Song

Offertory Prayer:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind....You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Let our offerings be symbols of our love, shown in service to God and to one another.

Scripture Readings: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1 on page 724 of VU

Matthew 22:34-46

Hymn: Friends, Let Us Love Each Other VU 488

Meditation

Ministry of Music: Love One Another

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: I Am Walking a Path of Peace (Love)

Hymn: By Our Love

Benediction