

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, August 25th, 2024
Led by Rev. Karen Bursey

Praise Medley: Holy Spirit Rain Down, As the Deer

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: Beautiful

Call to Worship:

Jesus said: "I am the Bread of Life.... whoever eats this Bread will always live".

This is a tough teaching, too tough to swallow.

Jesus said: "Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child, shall not enter it".

This is a tough teaching, too tough to hear.

Jesus said to all he met: "Follow me".

We have accepted Jesus and seek to be faithful, no matter how tough it is to follow him.

Prayer of Approach:

Holy God, home of all who seek you; may you find in our hearts, paths to walk,

wandering with us through the dark valleys, dipping us in pools of living water, lifting our faces to the grace falling softly upon us.

Loving Lord, speaker of tough words: we would wish for an easy life as we follow you to our home.

Help us to see that when we mop floors, we find our meaning; when we hammer nails, we discover our hope; when we embrace the sick, we touch our healing.

Spirit of Strength, bearer of our prayers, we would ask for:

The strength to say 'yes' when 'no' is on our lips; the wisdom to welcome all into our hearts; the longing to be with you always. God in Community, Holy in One, hear us as we pray together. Amen.

Hymn: Holy Spirit, Hear Us **VU 377**

Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

God, our sun and shield: we may long to be in your house, but our deeds show how tough it is for us to live there. Called to follow, we search for paths to take us back to our old ways; given the words of eternal life, we weakly proclaim the gospel to others; offered the path of salvation to walk upon, we stumble down the rocky roads of our world. Forgive us, Guardian of our lives. Strengthen us with your Spirit, so we may serve your people with all that brings them life. Let your Word, Jesus Christ, the One we have come to believe and know is our Lord and Saviour, be confirmed in us in every word, every deed, every thought, every moment in the days to come. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

Today, receive the Bread of Life; today, hear the words of eternal hope; today, trust in the One who hears your prayers, and showers grace and forgiveness upon you.

Today, we are set free to serve God's people and to sing God's praises. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: Fight the Good Fight **VU 674**

Offertory Hymn: We Give You But Your Own **VU 542**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

Take our gifts, Gracious God, and use them to put shoes on blistered feet, to put garments of grace around the hopeless, to touch hurting bodies with healing hands, and to share the gospel with everyone we meet. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Lesson: 1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Psalms 84 on **page 800 of VU**

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20 (The Armour of God)

Gospel Lesson: John 6:56-69

Hymn: Break Now the Bread of Life **VU 501**

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Hymn: Sent Forth by God's Blessing **VU 481**

Benediction