First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge Sunday, September 15th, 2024 Led by Rev. Karen Bursey

Praise Medley: Come Fill My World, Burdens Are Lifted at Calvary

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: Follow Me, Follow Me

Call to Worship:

On this morning, as every morning,

we are surrounded by God's grace.

In these moments, as every moment,

we are called to discipleship by Jesus.

Throughout this day, as every day,

we are taught peace and hope by the Spirit.

Prayer of Approach:

All around us, O God, creation preaches a silent sermon about your glory.

The full, orange moon declares your constant watchfulness;

the early morning mist over a schoolyard speaks of your steadfast love;

the cool breeze through slowly changing leaves whispers of your grace.

Holy One, bless us in this time together,

may we hear you in the silence and the songs, and discover you in the people around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: Lift High the Cross **VU 151**

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Spring of Wisdom, we confess that we have not denied ourselves and followed. We turn our backs on your outstretched hands of grace and stumble into the arms of the world. We speak poisonous gossip about others, rather than tell of their glory as your child. We fire off words that find no rest until they pierce another's heart. Forgive us, Rock and Redeemer. Give us speech which flows like cool water through another's parched spirit; give us silence with which to witness your wonders; give us words to proclaim Jesus is the Christ, our Lord and our Saviour, the One who leads us to life. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

With gentleness, God speaks to us; with graciousness, God forgives us; with joy, God embraces us.

With our lips, we praise God; with our words, we thank God; with our silence, we find God in our hearts. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: Morning Has Broken **VU 409**

Offertory Hymn: Grant Us, God, the Grace VU 540

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

All around us, we are reminded that we are not on our own, but our lives intersect with the poor, the hungry, the hopeless, our sisters and brothers. As we seek to follow you, may we share from the abundance you have poured out upon us, so all might experience your grace and life. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: Proverbs 1:20-33

Responsive Psalm 19 on page 740 of VU, Refrain 1

Epistle Lesson: James 3:1-12 Gospel Lesson: Mark 8:27-38

Hymn: I Come to the Cross

Meditation

Ministry of Music: Cry of My Heart

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Hymn: Halle, Halle, Halle/You Shall Go Out with Joy

VU 958/884

Commissioning and Benediction:

Go now with God, our good companion who covers us with tender mercies, who gives us good food and living water to nourish us.

> We go knowing that God will direct our path: bringing us joy and delight as we continue on our journey of faith.