

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, November 17th, 2024

Praise Medley: As the Deer, Seek Ye First

Greetings and Announcements

Introit: There Is Room for All

Call to Worship:

Come, let us give thanks to God!

We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

Come, let us give thanks to Christ!

We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone at this time of year.

Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit.

We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

Spirit of Love, we welcome you into our hearts. When we are tempted to wander off, you guard our feet so we can walk as faithful people; when we think we need to pay attention to all the gossip around us, you give us a double portion of good news, so we will not fear. You are the Christ, and we will listen to you. When no one else will listen to us, we can pour out our soul to you; when no one notices us, you see our misery and fill us with joy; when everyone else forgets who we are, you remember us and call us by name. You are our God, and we worship you, this and every day. Amen.

Hymn: Come, We That Love **VU 714**

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

We have to admit, Holy Listener, that we are more likely to be irritated by the lives of others, rather than being provoked to love them. When we are called to encourage those around us, too often our actions and words discourage them. Offered lives of peace and hope, we wander around filled with anxiety and despair. Forgive us, Rock of Redemption. Cleanse our hearts, so we might be more loving; keep us on the path of faithfulness, so we might find those whom we are called to serve; give us your words, so we might confess your hope offered to all who are broken, who are lost, who cry out to you. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. (Silent Reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

This is the good news: God gives us hope, God gives us peace, God gives us joy so we may share these gifts with everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God, who has forgiven us and provoked us to love others and to serve all who are around us. Amen.

Hymn: My Soul Cries Out

Offering: As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought **VU 518**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

We who are full can now give bread to others. We who are well-off can reach out to raise up the poor. We who have everything can offer a seat of honour to those who have nothing. We who are blessed by you, Exalted God, can be blessings to others. And so, we pray that the gifts we have may give hope to the despairing, give strength to the weak and justice to the oppressed. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: 1 Samuel 1:4-20

Responsive Reading: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 **VU 878**

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

Gospel Lesson: Mark 13:1-8

Hymn: Walk With Me **VU 649**

Meditation**Ministry of Music****Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

Prayer Response: Gentle Shepherd

Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story **VU 343**

Commission and Benediction:

Go forth now as God's people.

**We will go to offer joy to those in misery,
to remember all who have been forgotten.**

Go forth now as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

**We will go to offer the best rooms of our hearts to
the lonely, to pick up all those we have knocked
down.**

Go forth now as hearts of the Spirit.

**We will go to share a double portion of grace with
the empty, to invite others to walk the paths of
faith with us.**