

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, November 3rd, 2024
Led by Rev. Karen Burse**

Praise Medley: Because He Lives, Gather Us In

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: Teach Me, God, to Wonder **VU 299 vs 1**

Call to Worship:

May God's love surround you!

May God's love embrace you!

Let us love our God with every fibre of our lives.

**We open our hearts and souls to God,
serving God with our strength and thoughts.**

Let us praise God with loud voices.

Let us keep God's words close as we sing in joy.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

Living God: when there is a famine in our souls, you feed us with grace; when there are pockets of poverty in our love for others, you bless us with generosity; when we are empty and alone, you move into our hearts. Jesus, Bearer of the good things which have come to us: you bend down to lift us from despair; you embrace those who haven't a friend in the world; you open the eyes of those struck blind by arrogance and ambition. Eternal Spirit: you walk with us wherever we go; you take the fragments of our lives and reshape us into holy people; you are with us, and not even death can separate us. Holy One, hear us as we pray, help us to be aware of your presence as we worship you today. Amen.

Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling **VU 333**

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

We are hesitant to confess, Holy God, how hard it is to love as you wish. It is easy to love you with all that we are, except when you ask us to love our neighbour with all that we have. We find it hard to love our neighbour, when it is linked to the way we love ourselves. And it is difficult to love anyone - even You - more than we love ourselves. Forgive us, Love Eternal. As you took a risk in creating us, help us to take risks to love others compassionately, to love ourselves genuinely and to love you as completely as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

(Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

In God's Kingdom, all are loved for who they are, not what they do; in God's Kingdom, all are forgiven for what they do, and don't; in God's Kingdom, all are welcomed and fed by God's grace and hope.

**Forgiven, loved, sent forth – we are not far from
God's Kingdom! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Hymn: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me **VU 575**

Offertory Hymn: Many Are the Lightbeams **VU 588 vs 4**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

By sharing from the blessings you have given us, Holy God, we can love our neighbours, especially those who are hungry, those who huddle in shadowed doorways, those who need medical care and those who need to know they are loved – by us as well as by you. Bless our gifts and use them so all might draw closer to your kingdom. We pray this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: Ruth 1:1-18

Responsive Psalm 146 on **page 868 of VU**

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 9:11-14

Gospel Lesson: Mark 12:28-34

Ministry of Music

Meditation

Hymn: All Who Hunger **VU 460**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn: Draw the Circle Wide

Commissioning and Benediction:

As you leave this place, go with God.

We will go wherever God goes.

As you depart to serve, go with Christ.

We will not turn back from following Jesus.

As you live the coming days, go with the Spirit.

**God's people will be our people, and we will
share or lives with them.**