

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, January 19th, 2025**

Praise Medley: They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love
There Is Sunshine in My Soul Today

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: There Is Room For All

Call to Worship:

Precious God, we come in these endless days, as people in need of constancy of your love:

**may we drink deeply from your fountain of life;
may we continue to be guided by your Light.**

We gather in these weary days as people looking for signs of hope and wonder:

**may we drink deeply from your fountain of grace;
may our weariness be wrapped in your Hope.**

We worship in these overwhelming days, as people who try to point others to Jesus:

**may we drink deeply from your fountain of joy;
may our life be strengthened by your Life.**

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

Holy One, with you, we find refuge in these worrisome times. In the shelter of your compassion, we are made whole. In the abundance of your grace, we are strengthened to persevere. In the depths of your living waters, we are transfigured into the fragrant wine of compassion. With you, we are filled to the brim with the deep flavour of justice. Our lips cannot contain your praise, but will sing your hopes to all. Our hearts overflow with your spirit, as we are poured out for others. We find our common life in this community of faith, both in person and online. Made one by our common confession, we will take our uncommon gifts so we can share them with all, the same in love, the same in grace. Amen.

Hymn: Bind Us Together

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

We cannot remain silent, but must speak of the ways we misuse your gifts, O God. In our desire to have more and more, we cause more damage to your good creation. In our obsession with ourselves, we have desolated the lives of those around us. When we hoard what you have given us, we cannot be a blessing to other people. Forgive us, restless God, so we might be restored to life. May your steadfast love save and strengthen us to share our gifts with others, even as you have shared the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

God delights in you. So much so, that God will not rest until you are at peace. God will not remain silent, but will call you by name.

God's steadfast love extends to the heavens and reaches down to touch our hearts. Thanks be to God, who forgives and saves us! Amen.

Hymn: Jesus, Bids Us Shine **VU 585**

Offertory Hymn: When We Are Living **VU 581 vs 2**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

Sometimes we believe the gifts we offer do not matter. But, when they are combined with all the other gifts – of healing, of compassion, of our hearts – they can become rivers of grace and justice, flowing through the lives of everyone around us. We offer our gifts to you in this hope, as we pray in Jesus's name. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 36 **page 762 of VU**

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Gospel Lesson: John 2:1-11

Hymn: Send the Light

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Maranatha

Hymn: O Love, How Deep **VU 348**

Commission and Benediction:

God sends us out to the lonely, the forsaken and those forgotten in these weary times.

We will gather them up into the heart of love, to welcome them as our siblings.

Jesus calls us to throw a party for those who are hungry for hope, who thirst for justice.

We will go to be with those who sit at empty tables, who long to taste the sweet bouquet of grace.

The Spirit sends us forth, transformed from the foolish to the faithful.

We will go to those who walk in the muck of life, who yearn for days of joy and wonder.