



DOWNTOWN UNITED CHURCH

July 22, 2018

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

At the points marked * - those who are able are invited to stand.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory: For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked in this land, their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the unceded traditional territory of the Wolastowqiyik (Maliseet) and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

THE GATHERING

Organ Prelude: In a Medieval Monastery: Nocturne (Baylor)

Welcome to the Church

Call to Worship:

We come hungry, hurting, seeking wholeness.

We come following a Word, a man, a Spirit.

We come seeking,
renewal,
healing,
guidance.

Let us listen to the whispers of the Holy One as we hear stories of grace and love.

Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

We Light the Christ Candle

Opening Prayer

* **Opening Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

VU #232

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Rev. R. Bowley

***Hymn:**

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

VU #357

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing:

Look within us, O Holy One. You see our brokenness, our anger, and our mistrust of a world that is less kind than we hope. But there you also see a yearning, a longing to be made whole, a potential for a love that reflects your own, and a heart that, while chipped and tattered, wants only to reach out for connection. Feed our spiritual hunger and remind us of our abundance in you and in one another. Heal our fractured hearts and teach us to love again, to trust in you. Speak to us again. Walk among us again. Shine in and through us again. This we pray in the strong name of our brother and Saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Time of Silent Reflection

Assurance of God's Love

Prayer for Understanding:

Dorothy Frazier

Break open this Holy Word for us, O God. Weave the words into our lives, and help us to gain deeper understanding of your walking among us as Christ, and moving through us as Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Scripture Reading: Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

Congregational Response:

One: This is the witness of God's people.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Gift of Music:

The Lord's My Shepherd

(DuMosch)

Amy Bourne and Marcia Crouch

Reflection:

With Compassion

Rev. E. Beairsto

*** Hymn:**

Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

VU #563

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and sung Lord's Prayer

VU #959

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

* **Doxology:**

VU #541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

* **Prayer of Dedication:**

Our blessings are without number, and you O God, continue to heap gifts of love, grace, and hope into our lives. Bless what we have given here today and through PAR that these gifts and indeed all of us may continue the cycle of blessing as we strive to work with you to heal a broken world, and to embrace the lost and lonely among us. This we pray in the powerful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

* **Closing Hymn:**

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

VU #509

***Blessing and Sending Forth:**

Even as we are fed and healed, God calls us to do the same beyond these walls.

**Christ fed and Spirit led, we go to the world to share from
what we have been given.**

Go now with the love of God in you hearts, the peace of Christ in your hands, and the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the Good News you have heard this day. **AMEN.**

Postlude: Renaissance Rondel (Fletcher)

You are invited to remain for the Postlude as it is part of our worship.

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WELCOME to this service of worship and thank you for being with us today. We're glad you're here! You are invited to join us for **COOL CONVERSATION and NIBBLES** in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall following the Worship service. Thank you to ***Ann Kennedy and Sue MacLeod*** for providing this time of refreshments and fellowship.

PLEASE NOTE: On these hot summer days, you are welcome to bring a water bottle to worship so you can remain hydrated. I will put some water at the back of the sanctuary near the Carleton Street doors.

PRAYERS IN THE LADIES PARLOUR (at St. Paul's): On Wednesdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. St. Paul's will be holding prayer time. All are invited to come together as we pray for one another, our churches, our community and the world. Feel free to bring a bag lunch as we share in this time together.

LOOKING AHEAD – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 1 - 29 (5 Sundays) Our **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE** will be combined with St. Paul's and held **here at Wilmot at 10:30.**

July 16 – July 20 – GO Children's Adventure Camp (see notice)

July 21 – July 27 - The 43rd GENERAL COUNCIL of the UCC to be held in Oshawa, ON **Rose-Hannah** will serve as the commissioner clergy from the Woolastook Presbytery.

August 5 – Sept. 2 (5 Sundays) Our **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE** will be **at St. Paul's at 10:30.**

August 27-31 – VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - "ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE" held at St. Paul's this year.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

JULY 25: Noon Hour Recital of Guitar and Cello Music: Wednesday July 25, 12:10 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. at Saint Anne's Chapel of Ease (corner of George and Westmorland Streets.) Steven Peacock, guitar, and Emily Kennedy, cello, will present a recital of enjoyable music for guitar and cello. Admission by freewill donation to support the music program at Christ Church Parish Church.

August 12: Fredericton's Pride Parade - Come out and join us again this year as Wilmoters walk in Fredericton's Pride Parade. Last year was the first time that we walked in the parade as an Affirming Ministry. There was a great turnout and we're hoping for even more this year. We'll meet behind the Legion on Queen Street at 12:00 on Sunday, August 12th. See you there. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen @ 457-2954 or Deb @ 206-2948.

FREDERICTON PRIDE EVENT August 13, 7:00. As part of the Pride Week, the Fredericton Pride Committee and the Playhouse are hosting a screening of *The Fruit Machine*, a documentary that captures the story of how the Canadian government outed and mistreated its LGBTQ2+ public servants, police and military personnel- people who had signed up to serve their country. It has been described as one of the largest bullying campaigns in Canadian history. Some of the New Brunswick survivors, and advocates who have worked tirelessly to bring the story and class-action lawsuit forward, will be on site to answer questions following the screening of the film. Tickets are available through the Playhouse for \$13.50 + HST (<http://www.theplayhouse.ca/event/the-fruit-machine/>). For more information or for assistance with transportation contact Maureen Toner (457-2954) or Deb Bradbury (206-2948). As a gesture of support, Wilmot's Affirming Diversity Committee is sponsoring six members of the LGBTQ2+ community selected by the event committee.

(Please be advised this film contains occasional use of strong language, described violence and mature themes. Recommended for ages 14A)

Compassion in Life and Death

We celebrate that our gifts for Mission & Service have supported Wesley Urban Ministries, which has been offering support for the homeless, refugees, and working poor of Hamilton, Ontario for over 30 years.

In downtown Hamilton sits a building that looks like any other apartment building, yet when you enter the front doors of the Ferguson Street Centre of Wesley Urban Ministries, you are greeted with the sights and smells of hospitality. Here, meals are served, the coffee and tea are always on, and usually there is a board game that you can join. Journeying from the hum of conversation on the first floor up the stairs, you will encounter a simple room, the chapel. On one wall is a beautiful painting of Christ's life and the cross, along with plaques bearing names. The names tell stories to those who knew these people, stories of addiction and homelessness, but also of friendship and care.

One name on the wall is that of a young man who found a family at Wesley Urban Ministries. People from the community came together in the chapel to say goodbye to him, a man taken too early in life. A few months after his death, a woman came to the centre asking about him. She was his mother and had been searching for him. She was taken to the chapel, and when she saw his name and heard that he had died, she sat and prayed. The staff spoke to her about how many people had come to his funeral and how he was loved in the community. She was so thankful to Wesley Urban Ministries for loving her son and being in his life.

Wesley Urban Ministries is present for those on the margins in life and in death, and their compassion makes a huge difference.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, you are encouraged to make Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbor is at the heart of Mission and Service.

