

Downtown United Church

10:30 a.m. July 31, 2016

* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer *

Prelude

Steal Away

Martin

We Gather in Community

Greeting (*Responsive*):

Based on Luke 12:19

I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample grace to live absent of
fear and full of love.

Now at last will you rest your worries and welcome God's
possibilities for life?

Come, my soul, step out into a new thing!"

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsive*):

God of the past who whispered in the prophets' ears;
who rescued us from sin's slavery:

we are here to thank you.

God of the future, who is tearing down the old world,
and building your kingdom in our midst:

we are here because we trust you.

God of the present who, in the giftedness of our diversity,
creates us to be one people:

we are here to praise you.

God of life that surprises us when we find it within us:

we celebrate your grace.

Introit: Dance with the Spirit (X2)

MV 156

***Dance with the Spirit early in the morning,
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,
work and hope for a new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.***

Prayer of Approach & Lord's Prayer

Time for the Young at Heart 8

*Children's Hymn: Are You a Shepherd?

MV 126

Litany of Confession (*Responsive*):

Blessed are we when we let go of possessions for the kingdom of God unfolds in open places.

Woe to us when we gather into barns for soon this life will be over.

Blessed are we who know the ache of hunger for the empty places in body and soul are the fertile soil for new growth.

Woe to us who fill our lives to capacity for we fail to recognize what is missing.

Blessed are we who know sorrow for the ache of love lost is witness to the seed planted.

Woe to us who have yet to know the pain of grief for the fullness of love is woven with sorrow.

Blessed are we who know scorn for the rejection of humans keeps us mindful of that beyond.

Woe to us who depend on the approval of others for to dance with Spirit appears foolish.

Blessed are we who live in the harmony of life in the Spirit,

For we will recognize abundance.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love (*Responsive*):

Family of God, lift up your spirits with thanksgiving to God
whose nature is always to have mercy.

All who have come clean and sought forgiveness
shall never need to revisit old shame again.

The untarnished future is God's
and it is now offered to us with open hands.

We are forgiven, all things have become new!

Through Christ Jesus our Saviour!

***We give thanks to God who is so good, whose love goes on
forever! Amen!***

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

***Sung Prayer for Grace:** (Tune VU #437)

***We come to you with hearts that are open,
to you, and to each other here.***

***We seek, dear Lord, your grace upon us,
that we may love you and know you are near.***

First Lesson: Hosea 11: 1-11

Bob Miller

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ

Second Lesson: Luke 12: 13-21

Rev. Ellen Beirsto

One: Herein is Wisdom

All: Thanks be to God

Message Simpler Pleasures

Rev. Ellen Beirsto

Prayers of the People

***Hymn:** Today We Are All Called to be Disciples VU 507

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Serenade Jeremiah Clarke

***Dedication Verse:** For The Gift of Creation VU 538

*For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.*

***Dedication Prayer**

**We walk by faith, we live by faith, we give by faith.
God of great gifts, you have given us so much,
accept these gifts from our hands,
our faithful response to your abundant grace. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

***Hymn:** Precious Lord, Take My Hand VU 670

Blessing and Sending Forth (*Responsive*):

Go now as those raised with Christ, wondering at God's great love and telling the story of our salvation.

Be on your guard against all kinds of greed and set your minds on the ways of heaven.

And may God reach out to each of us this day and nourish us; may Christ Jesus renew us in the image of our creator; and may the Holy Spirit lead us with kindness and love.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

...In the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

***Choral Closing:** Go, Make a Diff'rence MV 209 (vs 3)

So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

And the Spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Postlude

Chaconne

Louis Couperin

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Greeters: July 31:

Ushers: Left Side: Linda & Alastair Lamont
Middle: Isabel Green
Right Side: Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones
Upstairs: Bob Miller & Roger Miller
Coffee Hour: Aug 7: Pantry

Sympathy and prayers are extended to Catherine Sutherland and family in the death of her husband Gerald Sutherland whose funeral will be held here later in August.

The Worship Committee will meet today in the Quilter's Parlour after Coffee.

Pantry Sunday is next Sunday, August 7th. We are in need of all supplies, especially cereal, juice boxes, pudding and fruit cups, granola bars, soup, laundry detergent, toilet tissue. Thank you for your continued support of our Pantry.

Brown bag needs: (flip top lids for cans please)

Proteins	flaked chicken, ham or turkey beans, soups, ravioli,
Juice Boxes	small please (tetra boxes)
Snacks	cheese/crackers, individually packed cookies small chocolate bars. granola bars
Puddings	vanilla, chocolate, tapioca, fudge.....
Fruit Cups/sauce	apple, mixed berry, fruit cocktail

Thank You for thinking of others.....

Rev. Richard is off on vacation, returning to the office on Monday, August 8th.

Cathy is away on vacation, returning to the office on Monday, August 8th. Please leave a message if it isn't urgent, if it is urgent please contact Pastor Sarah in the office at [458-1183](tel:458-1183) or at [357-6966](tel:357-6966) after hours.

"To all Committee Chairpersons: please check the revised Coffee Hour schedule posted in the kitchen. With thanks from the Worship Committee for your gracious hosting of the Coffee Hour."

We are looking for new Security personnel in the fall, if you attend St. Paul's and are interested in applying please contact either Joe or Cathy at [458-1183](tel:458-1183).

Downtown United Vacation Bible School
August 22 to 26th, from 9 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
This year St. Paul's will be hosting the event.

The next 13 week DivorceCare support group at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 536 Northumberland Street, will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 beginning September 12. DivorceCare is for anyone who is coping with the pain of separation or divorce. For more information or to register please contact the church office at [458-8527](tel:458-8527).

The next 13 week Griefshare support group at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 536 Northumberland St, will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 beginning September 19. GriefShare is for anyone who is coping with the loss of a loved one through death. For more information or to register, please contact the church office at [458-8527](tel:458-8527).