

**Welcome to  
The Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge  
Woodhouse United Church and  
Grace United Church  
Worship From Home Service  
Sunday, October 17, 2021**



**Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge  
Box 814, 18 Chapman St. West,  
Port Dover, ON N0A 1N0  
Church Office: 519-583-0342**

**Email: [graceunitedportdover@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedportdover@gmail.com)**

**Website: <http://www.graceunitedportdover.org>**

**Ministers: All People of the Community of Faith**

**Woodhouse Organist: Pat Tiller**

**Grace Pianist: Cheryl Copeman**

**Office Administrator: Jackie Misner-Hilton**

**Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Frank Walker, OM**

**Licensed Lay Worship Leader: Heather King**

**Volunteer Associate Minister: Rev. Sheena Riley-Marini**

**Pastoral Charge Minister: Rev. Kathryn Vance, DM**

**Cell: 519-717-7426 or [kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca](mailto:kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca)**

**Office Hours 9:00 am – 11:30 am (Mon. – Thurs)**

October 17 2021

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### We Gather to Worship

#### Welcome and Announcements

**Joke** – Actual announcements from church bulletins – these are all “choir” ones:

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What Is Hell?” – come early and listen to our choir practice.

Miss Charlene Mason sang, “I will not pass this way again”, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

#### Memorial Candle Lighting October 17, 2021

Dennis	D'Hondt	October	11	2017
Harry	Gamble	October	25	2017
Sandra	McFarland	October	18	2017
Jean	Riddle	October	6	2019
Terence John	Smith	October	2	2017
Douglas Albert	Smith	October	11	2018
John Edward	Wells	October	27	2020

Although death has separated us physically,

**faith and love have bound us eternally.**

Though we cannot see you,

**we know you are here.**

Though we cannot touch you,

**we feel the warmth of your smile  
as we continue our own journeys.**  
As you were, you will always be,  
**treasured forever in our memory.**

### **Call to Worship**

Are you hungry today?

**We are hungry for meaning in our lives, for hope in our hearts,  
and for service to others. And we remember all who are  
physically hungry today.**

Are you thirsty today?

**We thirst for right relationships with one another, for justice to  
be done for everyone, for food to be shared equitably, and for  
knowledge of God's presence in our lives.**

You have come to the place where we gather together in  
honesty and humility to encounter the living God.

**Let us worship together.**

*Catherine Tovell, Kilworth U.C., London, Ont.*

### **Hymn – VU # 218 We Praise You, O God**

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,  
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,  
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

## Opening Prayer

God, you are generous and just.  
We have come to this place to know you,  
to grow in faith,  
and to strengthen our ties to one another.  
Help us to move beyond complacency to passion.  
Help us to move beyond concern  
to outrage against injustice.  
Help us to deepen our commitment  
to your values of peaceful living,  
and abundant generosity,  
and fullness of life for all beings that live.  
We ask this in Jesus' name,  
the one whose name we bear. Amen.

*Kate Crawford, Huron Shores U.C., Grand Bend, Ont.*

## We Listen for God's Word

Time for the Young at Heart – How does a bowl of cereal remind you of God?

### Hymn – VU# 334 All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem,  
**and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

O seed of Israel's chosen race  
now ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace  
**and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

Crown him, you martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
praise him whose way of pain you trod, R  
**and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

Let every tongue and every tribe,  
responsive to the call,  
to him all majesty ascribe  
**and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

O that, with all the sacred throng,  
we at his feet may fall,  
join in the everlasting song,  
**and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

God of long ago, God of present day, God in whom the future lies:

We come seeking a word for the day,  
a light for our way, and bread for the journey.

Fill us with your word and nourish us at your table of grace,  
so that we can become the people we are called to be. Amen.

*Beth W Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask.*

### **Scripture Psalm 104: 1-9 Fertile imagination**

Actors strut at the front of the stage  
Before their sets and props

**Behind the whole production stands the director.**

You, God, are the director of our dramas.

**Within your mind, we exist;**

**We laugh, we cry, we play, we work.**

Without you, we would be nothing.

For you said, "Let there be..."

**And there was.**

The skies, the seas, the clouds, the hills ---

All sprout from your fertile imagination.

When the universe began its vast exploitation,

**you were there.**

When the spinning galaxies scattered through space,

**you were there.**

When the solar system strung its diamond necklace in the sky

**you were there.**

When life emerged on the frail planet,

**you were there.**

When the spirit of holiness lived among us,

**you were there.**

Without you we would be nothing.

## **Hebrews 5:1-10**

Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. <sup>3</sup> This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. <sup>4</sup> And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup> In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

<sup>6</sup> And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

<sup>7</sup> During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup> Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he

suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him <sup>10</sup>and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

### **Mark 10:35-45**

<sup>35</sup> Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

<sup>36</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

<sup>37</sup> They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

<sup>38</sup> “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

<sup>39</sup> “We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, <sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

<sup>41</sup> When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. <sup>42</sup> Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup> Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

### **Anthem**

### **Message**

So, James and John wanted to sit on each side of Jesus. That would have made one of them his “right-hand man”. I’ve not heard of a “left-hand man”, but presumably that position would yield as much power as the right hand. Power... the goal of so many people. Power can be a good thing or a bad thing, a life-giving thing or an evil thing. You’ve heard the expression, “money is power.” That is true. The more money you have, the more influence you have. But it’s not just money. Sometimes it is what a person does. You know, “so and so does this and

this and this and this. We'd be lost without them." Or a person has a position of influence. It could be political or corporate or even social. None of those things are bad. In fact, they can be very good...if they are used justly. If the influence is not used for one's own gain at the expense of others. The expense to others may be monetary but that is by no means the worst-case scenario.

For example, a person might use their social influence to exclude someone from activities which, by their nature, are open to a public sector. While the bully enjoys a sense of popularity and power, it can cost the excluded person their dignity, sense of self-worth, depression. Corporate power is something that exists in every organization. That power can be used to influence policies, sales, acquisitions, conditions of employment, transparency, salaries and bonuses, etc. We've heard about the price increases that have occurred during Covid. But some of those increases are the result of unwarranted price hikes. When it involves groceries, it makes it impossible for some people to feed their families adequately. Or what about the executives who got 6 or 7-digit bonuses last year when, at the same time, employees were laid off and financial bailout sought from the government. Or the Human Resource person who is secretly racist and makes sure that only certain people get hired.

I'm not even going to touch on the power that those with political influence have. We've all seen it.

The power of money! There is a lot that can be said about that. I'll take this opportunity to name one of my pet peeves. Payday Loans. These companies charge double digit interest rates. Yet their clients are people who are in a difficult position and really can't afford to be paying that kind of interest. The persons who established this business in the first place has used their financial power to increase their own position an outrageous cost to the more challenged in our society. Shame on them.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not saying that I believe that every politician,



corporate executive, or popular person is corrupt or abusive of their influence. Many are very good. Walter Gretzky used his social power to do a lot for young people. Bill Gates set up a foundation that provides money for a lot of good causes.

So, lets talk about power in a similar context to the Mark reading. In the church. Let's start with the minister. The minister can have a lot of power. I recognize that which is why I frequently remind myself that I serve God by serving you, not the other way around. Then there is your Council or Board. While they are accountable to you, they still have a fair bit of power over the day-to-day operation of the church. It is incumbent upon them to make decisions that are just. Next are committee members. Their time and talent are valued and appreciated. Like the minister and the Council or Board, they are serving God by serving the church. If any of the minister or volunteers takes the stand that if they don't get their own way on an issue they are "taking their bat and going home", they have moved from being a servant to wanting to be served. Some churches have congregants who take that stand. I'm glad that it's not the case here.

In conclusion I just want to repeat Jesus' words in verses 43 and 44 – "... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."

Amen.

### **Hymn – VU # 567 Will You Come and Follow Me**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,

will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown

in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
    should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
    in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
    and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
    in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
    to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
    in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
    where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
    in you and you in me.

### **We Respond to God's Word**

#### **Offering and Prayer of Dedication**

We dedicate these gifts returned to you, O God, as signs of our fierce love for others and protection of human dignity, as an example of our community of faith becoming an instrument of

your mending, and as evidence of our commitment to Christ's mission of self-giving.

Bless us and what we give as our response to your abundant love. Amen.

*Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont.*

## **Minute for Mission**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Concern**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

### **We Take Christ's Message Into the World**

#### **Hymn VU# 291 All Things Bright and Beautiful**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.**

Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their tiny wings.

The purpleheaded mountains,  
the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky;

The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one.

The rocky mountain splendour,  
the lone wolf's haunting call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,  
the forest in the fall;

God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God our maker,  
who has made all things well.

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.**

### **Benediction and Commissioning**

May the God who cares about the welfare of each  
sparrow and feeds all living things  
grant you the fruits of the Spirit:  
wisdom, joy, compassion, and strength  
so that you may feed the world.  
May the presence of the risen Christ  
sustain you and give you new life,  
now and evermore. Amen.

*Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont.*