

Cell Phones interfere with our sound system, therefore we request that all phones be turned to “airplane mode” or off. Thank you.

** Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able.*

May 27, 2018

Earth Sunday

ORDER OF SERVICE

WE GATHER

Silent Prayer and Preparation

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

* **Gathering Hymn 406** – *See the Morning Sun Ascending*

* Opening Words: *(responsive)*

Blessed be God, Eternal Majesty,
Living Word, Abiding Spirit.

Glory to God forever.

Jesus said, the way to see God’s dream for the world
is to be born from above by the Spirit.

God’s gift is available to us this day.

In worship we receive God’s Spirit and are made whole.

In worship may we dwell more deeply in love divine.

Let us worship God.

(Congregation may be seated.)

Prayer of Approach: *(in unison)*

Eternal and Gracious Creator,

we come to you this day,

each with different stories and different needs.

Yet we come together seeking

your blessing and your wisdom.

Guide our hearts and minds into stillness

so we may hear your voice.

In the sounds of this worship,

and in the silences in between,

let us grow in the wisdom you hold.

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**And let us grow in the wisdom held by the Earth,
by one another,
and by those who preserve ancient wisdom
revealed to ancestors long ago.
We pray in the words of Jesus as we sing ...**

The Prayer of Jesus: *VU 959 (sung)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Choir Anthem: “*This Is My Father’s World*” - *H. Tappan*

WE LISTEN

Bible Readings:

Genesis 9: 8-17

Responsive Psalm 96 - VU pg. 816

Romans 8: 18-25

- *Keith Rae*

Sermon

WE GIVE THANKS

* **Hymn 227** – *For the Fruit of All Creation*

The Offering

Choir Anthem: “*Every Day Is a Gift from the Lord*” - *Price/Besig*

* Offertory Response: *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.

* Prayer of Dedication: *(in unison)*

**O God of all creation,
our hearts fill with gratitude and wonder
at all you have made.
We bask in the abundance of creation
and are nourished by all its goodness.
Our thirst is quenched by clean waters,
the rivers and oceans team with life.
Our hunger is satisfied by bountiful harvests;
the orchards and fields burst with food.
Every day we are reminded that all life depends on you,
and we return these gifts, that life may abound. Amen.**

Prayers of God’s People

Choral Response: *MV 20, vs. 1*

**God of still waiting, God of deep longing,
God of the heart’s true rest:
hold us in fathomless peace,
guard us with unwaning love.**

WE GO FORTH

* **Closing Hymn 307** – *Touch the Earth Lightly*

* Benediction

* Choral Blessing: *MV 224*

**May the God of Peace and of all good,
may the God of Peace and of all good,
be always with you. Amen!
May God’s peace be with you. Amen!**

Postlude

(The congregation is invited to hear the postlude in silence.)



**God, teach us to empathize with the Earth.
Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation.**

WELCOME

We welcome all who worship with us today, but especially our guests. We would like to have a chance to meet our visitors. Please sign the guest book at the main entrance doors and introduce yourself to the greeter in the foyer or to the minister. After worship, the congregation visits over refreshments in the lower hall and we hope you will join us.

If you would like the minister to call on you, please contact the church office (905 892-6433); the church office is open Tuesday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Assisted Hearing Devices are available at the back of the sanctuary for improved sound. Please feel free to ask an usher for a headset. As well, large print copies of the hymns are available at the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to use them during the service.

Ushers: John and Joan Rigg

Counters: George Dauphney and Ralph Watters

Announcements

Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, June 3.

Happy Birthday! Eleanor Hughes is celebrating her 93rd birthday today – we wish her all of life’s blessing in the years ahead.

From the UCW – In June, the UCW will be filling 50 ditty bags for Women’s Place. Each bag contains a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap (in a soap dish if funds allow), deodorant, hairbrush and comb, shampoo and conditioner, hand lotion and a disposable razor. The approximate cost of filling a bag is \$12.00. If anyone would like to make a monetary contribution towards this project, please see Dora after church or call the church office during the week.

On Wednesday, June 13 the UCW will be having their annual potluck lunch at the church, starting at noon. Everyone who helped at the flea market is invited to attend. RSVP to Dora or the church office is not necessary but would be appreciated.

Syrian Refugees Support Concert will be held on Sunday June 17 at 2:00 pm at Fonthill United Church, featuring *A Cappella Niagara*, (18 barber-shoppers with their classic harmonies and good fun) and the *Choir of Fonthill United Church* singing gold standards and popular hymns. The concert is free but donations are welcomed to support our two Syrian Refugee families. Envelopes will be available in which to place donations and identify donors so they can be mailed an income tax receipt. Cheques should be made out to Fonthill United Church and on the memo line print "PSRCG."

A reception with light refreshments and tidbits will follow. The concert is in the support of the Pelham Syrian Refugees Constituent Group which is so appreciative of the financial assistance of Fonthill United Church and the work of a small group of hard working volunteers from the church which is making a real difference in the lives of the two families. We hope you will enjoy meeting those of the other three churches as well as other community residents at the concert.

Message from church member – Shelagh Rogers is a travel agent and she is offering some discount vouchers toward an all inclusive cruise and air package or a coach and air package lasting more than 7 days. The vouchers are valued at \$1,000 per person. If anyone is interested in obtaining one, contact the church office.

The Week Ahead

Tues.	May 29	9:00 am	Quilting
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
		7:30 pm	Glider Club Meeting
Wed.	May 30	3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		6:30 pm	Cubs & Beavers
Thurs.	May 31	9:30 am	Quilting
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:30 pm	Tai Chi
Sat.	June 2	2:00 pm	Sanctuary Rental – recital
Sun.	June 3	9:30 am	Worship Service – <i>Communion</i>

Fonthill United Church

42 Church Hill, Box 926

Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0

905 892-6433

fonthilu@vaxxine.com

www.fonthillunited.com



May 27, 2018
Earth Sunday

Minister: Garry van Bruchem
Music Director: William Outred
Council Chair: Brian McDonald
Secretary: Patrice Walker