

L: We remember how your everlasting love healed the self-esteem and rebuilt the self-worth of Black peoples who were stripped of their human rights and dignity.

P: We remember that you continue to heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds even today.

L: How good it is, O God, to remember your steadfast presence.

P: We offer you all of the things that we can no longer carry on our own: our burdens, our worries, and our concerns. We offer to you all of the situations that we feel ill-equipped for...

L: My prayer is ...

L: When we feel downtrodden by our burdens and weary to the point of collapse, when we find ourselves in exile,

ALL: Help us to hear the words of the prophet: "Those who wait for the Lord shall...mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint." Hush, our weary souls, and remind us once more, that you fight with us and you will never leave us nor forsake us in the struggle. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (James Weldon Johnson)

1. Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us, sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our people sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast, by thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee, lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

L: Today is all we have.

P: We can learn from the past, cherish today, and work towards correcting the errors for the future knowing this powerful and sacred history.

L: In Uganda there is a saying: One who sees something good must narrate it. As you have heard.

P: We go to share it.

L: And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be always with you. Amen.

CHORAL BLESSING (sung together)

God Be With You (Thomas A. Dorsey)

ALL: God be with you, God be with you, God be with you until we meet again; God be with you, God be with you, God be with you until we meet again. ccli#262153



**MINISTER EMERITUS
Rev. Dr. John Palmer**

We are a Christian community gathered together to worship and celebrate God and to serve Him through Jesus Christ. Our church is accessible and welcoming to all persons for fellowship, learning, sharing and teaching. We strive to show our love through service to all humanity.

ORDER OF SERVICE
Transfiguration Sunday & Black History
Month Celebration
February 26 2017

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Have you not known the God of the downtrodden: the God of Hagar and Ruth and Paul?

P: Yes, we know this God and surely this God knows us.

L: Have you not heard the gospel of the oppressed: the story of liberation, freedom, and salvation?

P: Yes, we have heard this story and surely this story lives in us.

L: Our ancestors learned to sing with their souls while in a foreign land.

P: Through music, Black people learnt to persevere and trust God, even as their hearts and bodies were broken.

L: The power God, moved through our ancestors, as the rhythm and cadence of music moves through our bodies.

ALL: There would be no Underground Railroad or Civil Rights Movement without a song, and there would be no song without you. Let everything that has breath, praise you!

Opening Hymn: “This Little Light of Mine”
(Harry Dixon Loes)

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Hide it under a bushel, no! I'm gonna let it shine; x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
3. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine; x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

PRAYER

ALL: Creator and sustainer of all things, in you we live and move and have our being. You alone have been our help and our guide, you alone are our strength, and you alone will be rest and our welcome. We have short memories so we forget the ways you led your people out of Egypt and through the wilderness and gave them water when they were thirsty. To you we turn as the source of our life, in your depths we find meaning, in your way we find wisdom, in your heights we find light and joy, and in your peace we find hope.

Scripture: The Transfiguration
Matthew 7:1-8

SPIRIT AND SONG: THE MUSIC OF THE JOURNEY

The 1600s Narration

Sung Response: “Over My Head” (*M V 88*) with soloist

The 1600s Narration cont'd

Sung Response: "Oh Freedom" (*African American Spiritual*)

1. Oh freedom, Oh freedom. Oh freedom over me! And before I'd be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave. And go home to my Lord and be free.
2. There'll be praying...

The 1600s Narration cont'd

ANTHEM: “Steal Away” (*J.D. Riding*)

The 1700s Narration

Sung Response: “In Times Like These” (*Ruth Caye Jones*)

1. In times like these, we need a Savior
In times like these, we need an anchor
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock

Refrain: This Rock is Jesus, Yes, He's the one.

This Rock is Jesus, the only One

- Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock**
2. In times like these oh be not idle
In times like these we need the bible
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock

Refrain

The 1700s Narration cont'd

ANTHEM: “Children Go Where I Thee” (*Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory*)

The 1800s Narration

Sung Response: Wade in the water (*Jimmie Abbington*)

Chorus: Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water. God's a-going to trouble the water

The 1800s Narration cont'd

ANTHEM: Ride the Chariot (*Wm. H. Smith*)

1900s Narration

Sung Response: "We shall overcome" (*Charles Albert Tindley*)

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday; Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall overcome someday.

1900s Invitation to Give

Sung Response: “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” (African-American spiritual; VU 575-vs 1 &2)

OFFERTORY DEDICATION

ALL: Loving God, accept these gifts. Bless them and use them to bring peace to places of unrest, love to places of hate, joy to places of fear, hope to places of loss and equal rights and justice for all. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen

2000s Narration

ANTHEM: Oh Happy Day (*Edwin R. Hawkins*)

SCRIPTURE: Twil Soon Be Done

Revelations 7:9-10, 13-17

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: “Kum ba yah My Lord”

L: How good it is to sing praises of your goodness, God; for you have called us each here, and have marked us with a desire to learn about the gospel.

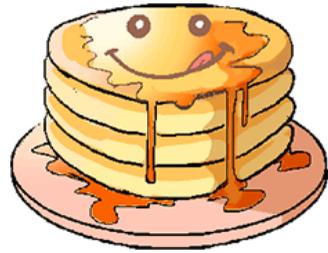
P: We come with many names: terms of endearment that we cherish and labels that we seek to one day destroy.

L: But you call us by one name, beloved. We remember your healing acts of salvation.

P: We remember how you gathered the dislocated and dispersed Black peoples in Nova Scotia to build communities and relearn cultures that were torn away.

L: We remember the Maroons, who with their hands built a mighty fortress on a hill.

P: We remember Viola Desmond, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Lincoln Alexander, Michaëlle Jean, Wilbert Howard, Sir Alexander Bustamante, Paul Bogle, Nanny of the Maroons and other heroes and she-roes of the faith that gave up their lives and their freedom.



Shrove Tuesday

SHROVE TUESDAY

Join us for the **PANCAKE SUPPER** on **Tuesday, February 28th** from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Dinner includes pancakes, sausage, drink and dessert. Adults \$7.00 Children under 12 yrs. \$4.00



LITURGICAL DANCE

LITURGICAL DANCE PRACTICE

The next Liturgical Dance practice to prepare for Easter Sunday will be held on **Thursday, March 2nd** @ 6pm – 6:30pm.



Ash
Wednesday
Service

Will be hosted by Westminster United Church on **Wednesday, March 1st** @ 7:00pm
Plan to be a part of this joint worship experience.



As part of our Community Outreach, the **Sunday School** would like to hold a **bake sale on Sunday, March 5th** immediately following church service in Ottawa Hall. This year the proceeds will be given to the Ronald MacDonald House at Windsor Regional Hospital.

Similar to last year, we are asking the congregation to bring in their cookies, squares, cupcakes and any other goodies for this event. The baked goods will be accepted at the beginning of service and then moved downstairs for coffee hour.

Last year's bake sale was a huge success and we're hoping for the same response this year!

Thank you for your support.

NEXT SUNDAY:



BIBLE STUDY 2017

Starts: March 5, 2017
Sundays @ 11:50am
Theme: Ready to Rumble!!!
Wearing the Armour of God



If you would like to become a member of Emmanuel United Church we welcome you. Please talk to Rev. Sadekie.

Rev. Sadekie Lyttle-Forbes
Cell: 519-984-2608
Minister's Office Phone: 519-253-0003
Email: revsadekie@gmail.com



Completing the New Testament: Week of February 26, 2017 1 Corinthians Chapters 10-13

For your thoughts- What have I learnt from this text today and how can I apply this to my life? **DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AFTER THE READINGS?** Write them on a post it and place them on the poster board in **OTTAWA HALL...** Look for an answer to your question(s) on the board the following week.



OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Thursday
1:30pm – 4:00pm

Friday 1:30pm - 6:00pm

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