

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: VU 356**

Seek Ye First the Kingdom (v1)

L: Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty and yet the world is often so much less than you would have it be. We pray that wherever people are crippled by the powers of poverty, sickness, or grief you will touch their pain and restore them; Lord in your mercy;

**P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: We pray that wherever people burdened by the weight of the consequences of war, greed, hostility or jealousy you will lift their burden and restore them;

**P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: We pray that where people challenge regimes and relationships marked by tyranny, domination, and brutality you will liberate all souls and restore them;

**P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: We pray that where people are persecuted because of their race or creed or for the truth that they tell; and where people are not treated with respect or decency you will rescue them and restore them;

**P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Hear us as we pray to you for those situations close to our hearts; in grace hear our prayers and restore all things. May prayer is ...

L: We thank you, compassionate God, that your light still shines in the darkness and that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**ALL: Hear us as we bring to you our concerns and pray for your redeeming power to be at work in our lives and in your world, in Jesus name, Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**COMMUNION HYMN: VU 480 Let Us Break Bread Together**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**CLOSING HYMN: You Are My All in All**  
(Dennis Jernigan)

1. You are my strength when I am weak  
You are the treasure that I seek  
You are my all in all  
Seeking You as a precious jewel  
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool  
You are my all in all

**Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God  
Worthy is Your name  
Jesus, Lamb of God  
Worthy is Your name**

2. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame  
Rising again I bless Your name  
You are my all in all  
When I fall down You pick me up  
When I am dry You fill my cup  
You are my all in all Chorus

**COMMISSIONING & BLESSING**

L: Go forth in the assurance that there is nothing that can separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ. Go and share that love with all you meet. Look for blessings in small and unlikely places. And may the Lord strengthen you, with ample power to meet whatever comes with fortitude, patience and joy.

**ALL: Amen.**

CHORAL BLESSING: (Sung together)

Go now in peace never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true, know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love and show you believe, reach out to others, so all the world can see. God will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen. ccli#262153

# EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

**March 25, 2018  
10:30 am**



**PALM SUNDAY**

**MINISTER  
Rev. Sadekie Lyttle-Forbes**

**MUSIC DIRECTOR  
Nicholas Morvay**

**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**  
**March 25, 2018**

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

Procession with Hydrangeas

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made,

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

L: Jesus is coming.

**P: Hosanna!**

L: He comes to us riding on a donkey.

**P: Hosanna!**

L: Open wide the gates!

**P: Hosanna!**

L: Let us welcome him with the branches

**P: Hosanna!**

L: Jesus is coming

**P: Hosanna to the King of kings**

**OPENING HYMN – VU79 Arise, Your Light Is Come**

**INTRIOT: "Palm Sunday Processional" by Anna Laura Page**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

L: God of all people and all places, all situations and all times, you are the light of the minds that know you, you are the strength of those who serve you, you are welcome and rest to those who go in search of you.

**P: We come this day, resting from our work and responsibilities, pausing from our play and from our dreaming, to listen to your voice, to enjoy your beauty, and to worship you as Creator, Christ, and Spirit. Let these branches be signs of His victory, and grant that we who carry**

**them may follow Him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom, through Him.**

L: Hear us now as we speak to you the truth about our lives:

**ALL: God of compassion, we confess that we prefer darkness to your light, and our ways to yours; we do what is easy rather than what is right, and we have been dishonest with ourselves and each other. Forgive our fleeting enthusiasms and our shallow commitments. Give us the grace to receive forgiveness and extend it to others, and a strong desire to live in peace. Amen**

**RESPONSIVE READING:**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Avery Brooks

One: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**All: Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."**

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

**All: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

One: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**All: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

One: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**All: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One: Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

**All: O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!**

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

**All: We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

One: The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

**All: Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.**

One: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

**All: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia!**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN: VU 376 Spirit of the Living God** (Children come forward during singing. We sing verses 1 and 2)

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION & RECEPTION INTO FULL MEMBERSHIP:**

Avery Janet Brooks

Sofie Edith Rosa Waters

**Congregation's Response (when prompted during ceremony): With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Avery and Sofie are surrounded by steadfast love, that they may be established in the faith and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

**Congregation's Response (when prompted during ceremony): We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Jesus Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in God's work.**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- The New Creed (On back of communion insert)**

**RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP**  
*Congregational response (when prompted during ceremony): As brothers and sisters in Christ, we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us. We commit our love and support and with God's help, we will together live out the mission and ministry of Christ's church.*

**VU 376 Spirit of the Living God (v1)**  
(Children will greet Avery & Sofie and leave for Sunday Sch.)

**THE OFFERTORY: VU 127 "Ride on! Ride on in majesty!"**

**OFFERTORY DEDICATION**

**ALL: If we want to know you, Generous God, we must see you in those all around us. If we want to serve you, we must give our material resources, so that blessings of hope and life might be offered to the needy, the lonely, the hungry all around us. Receive our gifts, we pray, so that others may be transformed even as we are. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

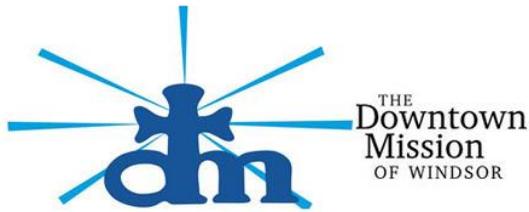
**PREPARING TO LISTEN – VU 371**  
Open my eyes that I may see (v1)

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

Gospel: John 12: 12-16 Sofie Waters

**ANTHEM: "How Beautiful" by Twila Paris**

**THE MESSAGE: "Blessing in disguise"**



## DOWNTOWN MISSION

Information on the Mission plus **coupons** for its two social enterprise programs (The Do Good Deli and Chari-tees) are posted in Ottawa Hall. Bill & I have enjoyed the “**2 can dine for \$10.99**” special. Please see me if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Michele McGregor



**EUC COUNCIL MEETING**  
Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00pm.



**LITURGICAL DANCE PRACTICE**  
The next Liturgical Dance practice to prepare for Easter Sunday will be held on **Thursday, March 29<sup>TH</sup>**  
From 6:00pm – 6:30pm



Outreach's annual rummage sale is **Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**.

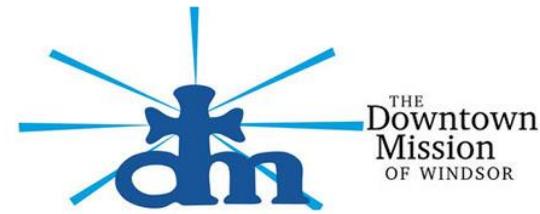
Now is the time to spring clean and follow the philosophy of giving away an item for each day of Lent.

The Scouts have again provided our use of the back room in Scout Hall for storage, so please feel free to bring your donations in weekly.

As many of you know, this sale has been a wonderful way to connect and outreach with our neighbours.

See Michele McGregor if you have any questions about items to donate.

Closer to the sale, we will seek volunteers. Thank you!



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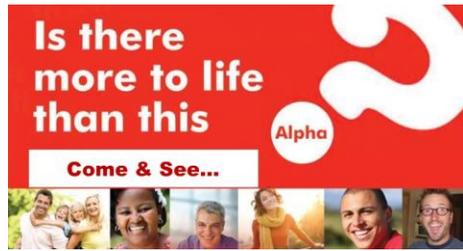
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## ALPHA PROGRAM

**Alpha** is a series of interactive sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. There's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's just an open, informal, and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together.

**WHERE:** Emmanuel United Church  
**WHEN:** Each Thursday  
April 5<sup>th</sup> – May 31  
**TIME:** 6:30pm – 8:30pm  
**LOCATION:** Banquet Hall

Light supper provided  
at each gathering!

Please see Marg Grieve or  
Rev Sadekie if interested.



## CONFIRMATION

God Bless  
**AVERY BROOKS**  
and  
**SOFIE WATERS**

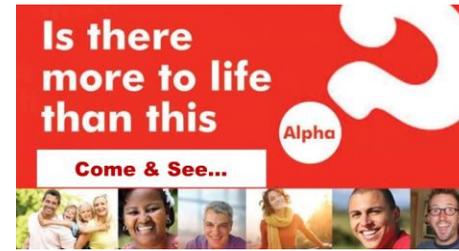
as they receive the Sacrament  
of Confirmation today.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday Service  
@ 6:30pm

Good Friday Service  
@ 10:30am

Easter Sunday Service  
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