ORDER OF SERVICE

CLELBRATING MENTAL HEALTH SUNDAY

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

*Please Stand Where Able

MUSICAL PRELUDE BIBLE OPENING WELCOME & CELEBRATIONS TIME OF PREPARATION & GROUNDING GREETING

God is good,

All the time,

God is good.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

We gather in the presence of the One who abandons no one.

Come Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter.

All are welcome in this sacred place, made holy through your presence with us.

Open our hearts and minds this day, guide us into a loving relationship with all your children.

We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

Spark in us a word of life and radical belonging— a message that we share with others as we seek to live out Christ's love.

We call on the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

Come let us worship!

*HYMN VU #703 "In The Bulb There is a Flower"

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

God of love, as we celebrate Mental Health Sunday, stir in us deep compassion this morning. Stir your Spirit in and among us as we offer our prayers and praises. We long to hear more than the groaning of Creation around us, more than our own fearful groaning.

From the places deep within us, that we mistakenly believe are hidden from you, may your Spirit intercede for us.

Draw us into your presence.

May we recognize you in ourselves and in our neighbours.

Let us see you through all brokenness that we may find wholeness in being your body here and now. In the name of the One who fills the world with Hope. Amen.

(Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe, based on Romans 8)

SPECIAL MUSIC

WE HEAR THE WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES

"When God Cries" Desmond Tutu

Dedication of the Proceeds from the Lenten Coin Challenge for Lambton Mental Wellness Centre

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION SCRIPTURE

Acts 1: 1-11 Luke 24: 44-53

Response: Thanks Be To God

REFLECTION "WE ARE NOT ALONE"

*HYMN VU #600 vs 1, 2, 4, 5
"When I Needed a Neighbour You Were There"

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

INVITATION to Generosity

We have a "Giving Station" at each Entrance and one plate that will remain at the back entrance throughout the service.

*Please Stand for the Offering Hymn while the Offering is brought forward

Sung Response "What Can I Do?" (2 times)
What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Teach us, God, to offer
the very best of who we are
in the service of your will
through the mission of this church:
may we offer hope, joy, and reconciliation
in the world so much in need.
Receive what we give for
the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer.....

AMEN

*HYMN # VU#658

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

(responsive)

The One who created all that is, calls us by name and invites us into a life of abundant Love.

We go out into the world as God's beloved people, bringing Holy Love to all whom we meet.

Jesus taught us to love one another as fiercely and freely as God loves each of us, with the power that binds us together as the Body of Christ.

We will embody Christ by shattering stigma and welcoming all, leaving no one outside.

The Spirit fills us with the Breath of Life and urges us to imagine anew how to be Church in the world today.

We will breathe deeply and move beyond what has been and what is. We will follow the Spirit and bring hope and healing to all who live in despair and brokenness. We will be the Church!

(Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe)

* **SUNG BLESSING** MV #92 (vs 1 only)

"Like A Rock"

Organist will play through once Sing Together 2 times through

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet. Like the starry night sky, God is over our head. Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before. Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

POSTLUDE

* * * *

Pastor Roxanne will not be in the Church Office this week. Should you have an urgent matter, please contact Pastor Roxanne at 519-280-7744

UP-COMING

UCW meet – Thursday, May 9th at 1:00 PM All Women Welcome

Men's Breakfast group Meet Wednesday, May 15th at 10:00 AM at John's Restaurant - All Men Welcome

Moore Museum's "Victorian Tea" Sunday, May $19^{th} 1 - 4$

For Announcements. More details on the back table

LONDON ROAD WEST UNITED CHURCH

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 5th, 2024

PASTOR ROXANNE BALE

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"London Road West United Church is a welcoming congregation celebrating God's presence through worship, music, spiritual enrichment and outreach."

"Be with us: Celebrate GOD!"