***NEW VISION COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH***

***38 Aldborough Ave, St. Thomas* N5R 4T1**

***519-631-5705***

***visioncc2023@outlook.com***

April 21st, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

**Candle Lighting –**

One: It is true that one candle cannot put out the darkness.

**All: It is also true that one candle pushes back the dark.**

One: Let this candle shine – in our eyes and hearts.

**All: Let one candle be a reminder of the Spirit within us all.**

**Call To Worship –**

One: In this time of worship and throughout our lives, we call on God.

In moments when we search for the power to act justly,

**All: let us do so in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.**

One: In situations when our lips long for powerful words to speak,

**All: let us do so in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.**

One: At times when we feel lost and need to find the power to follow,

**All: let us do so in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.**

One: When it is easier to hate, and we desperately need the power to love,

**All: let us do so in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.**

One: God offers salvation, transformation, solace, and refuge. In it, we obtain the power to act, the power to speak, the power to follow, and the power to love.

**All: In all we do and all we say, let us do so in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.**

One: Come, let us worship.

**Gathering Hymn –**326 VU - O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing.

**Prayer of Confession**

One: In our doubts, we have and turned towards false securities, hopes, and promises.

**All: In our ignorance, we have invested in artificial love and cheap grace.**

One: In our defiance, we have denied our beliefs and ignored your guidance.

**All: We, too, have rejected the stone in these ways and others.**

One: In this silence, we confess our acts of rejection now.

**All: Gracious Lord, help in your Spirit to see the ways we have erred.**

One: Gracious Lord, forgive and lift us up, that our tomorrow will be done in your will.

**All: Hear our confessions as recognition for wrongs done in the past and hope for transformation to come. Amen.**
**Words of Assurance**

**Hymn –** 342 VU- You Servants of God.

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

Reflections on the word.

**Scripture Reading -** John 10:11-18

Ministry of Music

**Meditation – *Good Shepherd or…..?***

**Hymn –** 570 VU - Jesus’ Hands were Kind Hands.

**RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offering Hymn - Grant Us, God, the Grace of Giving - 540 VU**

 Grant us, God, the grace of giving,

 with a spirit large and free,

 that ourselves and all our living

 we may offer faithfully.

**Offering Prayer**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

**Closing Hymn –** 661 VU- Come to My Heart Lord Jesus.

**Commission and Benediction -**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 23 : *Knitting 9:30am*

 Scouting 6pm

April 24: Disking -2pm

 Choir-6:30pm

April 26: Concert at EESS 7:30pm. See Joe Willert or Murray Adlam for tickets

***FRIENDS OUTREACH FUNDRAISING PROJECTS***

ZPre-Mother’s Brunch on May 5th following Worship service:

**Scrambled eggs/Ham/Sausages/Pancakes**

**Hash Brown Casserole/Maple Syrup/Toast**

**Jam/Fruit Cocktail/Cookies**

**Free Will Donation - Suggesting $10/person**

**Reserve by contacting Jim Hunter (519.631.6128)**

**By April 28th**

♦️Dessert and Euchre Party

**May 6, 2024**

**Dessert at 6:30 pm    $10 per person**

**Reserve a table/tickets by contacting**

**Lynda Hunter (519.631.6128) or Friends Executive**

**By April 28th**

**Aylmer Area Community Band and Choir are holding their spring concert "The Music of Hollywood ", Friday April 26th at 7:30 pm at East Elgin Secondary School in Aylmer. Both Murray Adlam and Joe Willert have tickets.**