



## **Britannia United Church**

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**Meditation:** “One of the most beautiful qualities of true friendship is to understand and to be understood.”

- Lucius Annaeus Seneca

**Welcome:** to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please read along if text is **bold** and *italic*.

### **We Gather in God’s Name**

**Introit:** Be Still My Soul (652)

### **Announcements**

**Prelude:** Over the Rainbow sung by Miss Marlayah McLeod

**Call to Worship:** John 15:12-15 (NT, pg 109, Bethany Tee)

This is my commandment,  
that you love one another, even as I have loved you.  
Greater love has no one than this,  
that someone lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends, if you do whatever I command you.  
No longer do I call you servants,  
for the servant doesn’t know what his lord does.  
But I have called you friends,  
for everything that I heard from my Father,  
I have made known to you”.

**Hymn:** Part of the Family (395)

**Opening Prayer:** (John Daniel)

Among other wonders of our lives,  
we are alive with one another,  
we walk here  
in the light of this unlikely world  
that isn't ours for long.

***May we spend generously***

*the time we are given.  
May we enact our responsibilities  
as thoroughly as we enjoy our pleasures.  
May we see with clarity,  
may we seek a vision that serves all beings,  
may we honour the mystery surpassing our sight,  
and may we hold in our hands the gift of good work  
and bear it forth whole,  
as we were borne forth by a power we praise  
to this one Earth, this homeland of all we love.*

### **Theme Presentation**

**Music Offering** My Pride by Miss Marlayah McLeod

### **We Hear God's Word**

**Scripture Reading:** Romans 8:26-39

**Message:** Cocoons are Meant for Butterflies

\* **Hymn:** When I Needed a Neighbour (600)

### **We Respond to God**

### **Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Offertory:**

\* **Doxology:** (541)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

\* **Offertory Prayer:**

Loving God, giving Spirit, Christ our friend,  
*may your essence be in our giving,  
may your lessons be in our living,  
and may this world be blessed,  
because we are in you,  
and you are in us. Amen*

\* **Hymn**: What a Friend We Have in Jesus (664)

\* **Commissioning and Benediction**: (Proverbs 17:17)

*Loving God,*

***I pray for the grace to be a good friend.***

***May I be a gentle presence***

***in the life of my friends,***

***ever willing to listen, to forgive,***

***and to extend hospitality.***

***Remind me of the importance of friendship***

***so that I take the time to nourish***

***these precious relationships.***

***I pray this in the name of Jesus,***

***who knew what it meant to be a good friend.***

***Amen***

\* **Sung Response**: (602, vs. 1 and 4)

Blessed be the tie that binds

our hearts in Christian love.

the fellowship of heart and mind

is like to that above.

This glorious hope revives

our courage on the way;

that we shall love in perfect love

in God's eternal day.

**Postlude**