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#### February 19, 2017

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all. All points marked \* those who are able are invited to stand.)

### Approach

Gathering Hymn MV #145 - "Draw the Circle Wide"

Call to Worship One: The enemy:

- All: Love them.
- One: The oppressor:
- All: Walk the mile with them.
- All: Walk the mile with them. All: Turn the other cheek to them.
- One: The Master: All: Turn the oth One: This doormat faith seems too much to bear
- All: In a world where those who bully always seem to win.
- One: The enemy:
- All: Imbalance them with love.
- One: The oppressor:
- All: Shame the law that oppresses.
- One: The Master: All: Turn the cheek as an equal.
- One: This rebellious faith seems too much to bear
- All: In a world where those who bully are loved back to justice by the bullied.
- One: But this is heaven's revolution and we are called into it.
- All: Come let us worship love's rebel, Jesus.
- Opening Hymn MV #94 "Love Knocks and Waits"

#### Prayer of Approach and Confession

Holy Jesus, You call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not. You challenge us to forgive, to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us. We want the easy way, but You have given us the hard path. Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with You, to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live into the hard way so that we might fully experience Your love, grace and peace in this world, by becoming a people full of love and grace and forgiving others. In Your name we pray. AMEN

#### Assurance of Pardon

Children's Time / The Lord's Prayer / Blessing of the Blankets

- One: We thank you gracious God for those who so lovingly created these blankets.
- All: For they are instruments of your grace.

- One: We thank you gracious God for those who so generously supplied the wool.
- All: For they have felt the yarn in their fingers;
- One: We thank you Gracious God for these beautiful pieces of handiwork.
- All: For these blankets that grew with the click of the needles.
- One: May God's grace be upon these blankets, warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May these become a safe haven...

...feel the love of all of us at Windsor Park United Church and the love of God each time they enfold themselves in these gifts.

### AII: AMEN!

\* Hymn VU #600 – "When I Needed a Neighbour"

# The Word

Scripture Reading – Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 Matthew 5:38-48

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

## THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – "Love your neighbor as yourself?"

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – "What You Gonna Preach?"

## The Response

Announcements

\* Offering / Response

Thank you for the love that's in this place; Thank you for the joy in every face. Thank you for awakening just begun; Thank you for your steadfast presence, O Holy One.

### Pastoral Prayer

- \* Hymn VU #691 "Though Ancient Walls"
- \* Benediction / Response (MV #209)

Go make a difference. We can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world.

- Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
- Go make a difference in the world.