

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, MIDLAND, ON
SUNDAY, MAY 07, 2017
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

**MINISTERS: REV. KAREN PTOLEMY-STAM
& REV. BEV IRWIN**
MUSIC DIRECTOR—VICTORIA WARWICK

*Indicates to please stand as you are able.

* HYMN: VU #409 Morning has Broken

CALL TO THE GATHERED

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we light this Christ candle, may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

SUNG INTROIT: VU #187 Vs 1

**The spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!**
**The world has changed,
and God is at the heart of it!**
**New light, new day,
new colour after winter grey.**
**New light, new day,
the spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!**

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Holy One, in the midst of the noise and confusion of life, may we find in you the path to living in ways that connect us to each other, the earth and the universe in ways that honour the dignity of all. Amen

HYMN MEDLEY:

Jesus Laughed Out Loud - MV 133

Jesus laughed out loud to see the children play;
his joyful presence drew a crowd
we could not send away.

Jesus healed a child by asking her to rise,
and doubtful people wept and smiled
to see her open eyes.

Jesus felt the need;
we made the crowd sit down.
A boy had faith and all were fed,
though we were far from town.

Jesus called my name when he was passing by;
my life will never be the same;
this love will never die

WHEN WE GATHER AT THE TABLE

1. When we gather at the table
wine is poured and bread is broken.
Then love claims us, offering healing,
we hear welcome, gently spoken.
2. Jesus offers our thanksgiving
blessing God for life we're given.
From the earth comes grain to feed us
watered by the rains of heaven.
3. Christ, your coming and your hosting
gives us place at widening table
now embracing world and neighbour
Spirit strong, by love enabled.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SANCTUS BENEDICTUS VU# 932(sung)

**Holy, holy, holy are you,
God of power and might,
heaven & earth are filled with your glory,
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is the one
who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION) VU#933 (2x)

**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come, come again.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (unison)

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the cup of the new vine. With the bread and the wine we have tasted, remind us that you breathe into us new life and new visions for us and for your world. Amen

(Children may go to Discovery Kids now)

READING: Desiderata from Old Saint Paul's Church Baltimore, USA 1692

Go Placidly amid the noise & haste & remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly & clearly: and listen to others, even the dull & ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud & aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain & bitter; for always there will be greater & lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity & disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the things of your youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue & loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees & the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not

it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, what you conceive God to be, and whatever your labours & aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all of its sham, drudgery & broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

SERMON

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

For God So Loved the World

*DOXOLOGY:

VU # 581 Vs.2

**Through all our living,
we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN:

VU#264

Immortal, Invisible, (vs 1-3)

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love & joy & peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light & hope to every land & race.
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.**
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POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 7, 2017

308 King St,

Midland, On L4R 3M6

Phone 705-526-6077, fax 705-526-4020

Email stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Website: www.stpaulsmidland.org,

like us on facebook! Service and School 10 am

Ministers: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam,
& Rev. Bev Irwin

Music Director: Victoria Warwick,
Bible Reader – Fran Hill

Welcome Friends!

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here!

Whether you are a child, youth, adult or elder,
You are welcome here!

Whatever your ethnic origin or language;
sexual orientation or gender identity;
religious tradition or theological position;
whatever your economic status or political persuasion
You are welcome here!

If you are differently abled, you are welcome here!

If you are spiritually weary and in need of rest,

If you are mourning a deep loss in your life,

If you are skeptical;

if you have been hurt by religion,

If you have questions,

If you come full of doubts or confidence, joy or sorrow,

You are welcome here because you are God's creation, and WIDE is God's
Welcome!!

Friends! You are Welcome in this Place –
Just as you are.



Sunday Worship on DVDs: St. Paul's "Tech Team" records the Sunday worship on DVDs, for distribution to those unable to attend. If you know of someone who would enjoy a copy of our Sunday service delivered to their home each week, please contact Sheila Thompson at 705-526-2186 or by e-mail at rmsmt@rogers.com.

Scent free environment: Due to the rising number of people who suffer from allergies to scents, we are asking if people could please refrain from wearing any scented products. Thank you.

Open House May 13th postponed: It is with some disappointment that our Open House scheduled for May 13th is being postponed. Due to a glitch with the elevator, we have learned that we are not going to be able to get the problem resolved and the elevator inspected in time for the 13th. Consequently, we are postponing the Open House until some time in the fall, possibly September. Please help us to get the word out.

Toronto Conference: Thank you to all who have signed up to volunteer for the 2017 Toronto Conference of the United Church in Midland from May 25th to 27th. There will be a volunteer orientation meeting at the church after the service on May 7th, and a second orientation meeting at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre on Wednesday May 17th at 7:00 pm. Please plan to attend one of the two sessions, or speak with Zena Pendlebury at 705-527-6789. With everyone's help, the Conference will be a great success!

St. Paul's Yearly Auction: Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated or made purchases this year. Your efforts helped make this year's event a huge success, raising \$6,940!

Help Elevate Accessibility Now: Project & Fundraising Update:

As we begin to enjoy the accessibility renovations at St. Paul's, we wish to give thanks to everyone who has supported the project both financially and with their time and expertise! To date, we've raised \$200,239.68 which means we only require \$49,760.32 to complete the congregation's commitment of \$250,000. Please consider fulfilling your pledges or donating this month. Together, we're making our building a welcoming place for all to enjoy!

Candlelight Tributes: in Honour of All Those Who Served in the Cause of Peace and Freedom. You're invited to Midland's Candlelight Tribute Ceremonies on Wednesday May 10th at 7pm at the Cenotaph on King Street. In the event of rain, the Ceremonies will be held at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre, in the Community Hall.

Music Festival: St. Paul's will be hosting the annual Music Festival during the week of May 15th. The Festival of the Stars is on Wednesday May 24th. This always proves to be a very busy time around St. Paul's. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. Your assistance and patience is very much appreciated.

Thank you from 4th Midland Scouts: A big thank you to the congregation of St. Paul's United Church for supporting our Chili Dinner and Silent Auction. We realized a profit of \$1,034 that will go toward our youth trip to the Canadian Scouting Jamboree in Halifax this summer.

Pork Loin Supper Friday May 19th: Order of Eastern Star will be hosting this event at St. Paul's United Church from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets will be available at the door, or can be purchased by contacting Marilyn Folliott at 705-527-1381.