

St. Paul's United Church, Midland, ON
Sunday, August 13, 2017

**Ministers: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam
& Rev. Bev Irwin
Music Director–Victoria Warwick
Multi-Generational Community Worker - Paw Roe Shee**



SOMETHING TO PONDER: The story of Joseph is a painful one. Jealousy, family pet, revenge are all part of the story that initially destroyed his life. However, even in his deepest moments of despair, God found ways to help him see the larger picture of grace and hope. God was able to not only settle the storm but through Joseph address the suffering of many.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED

HYMN: VU #218 We Praise You, O God

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #958 (sung twice) **Halle, halle, hallelujah.**

PRAYER OF THE GATHERED (unison)

When everything goes wrong O God, you are there. You know our suffering and the struggles of life. You ache with us and did not plan these horrible events that happen. However, even in the midst of this, you are able to enter in, guide us and sometimes, use it for good. Help us to trust ourselves and you. Be with us in our worship this morning. Amen

HYMN MEDLEY:

THIS IS THE DAY

This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad! (2x)
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu,
singing hallelu! We will rejoice and be glad! (2x)

I THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY (VU #509)

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

THEME CONVERSATION: The Story of Joseph (Genesis 37:1-28)
LORD'S PRAYER

MUSIC: Shayla Brown "Better Place"
(Discovery Kids with Paw Roe)

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (in unison)

May these wise words be a source of wisdom, courage and strength. Amen

READING: Matthew 14:22-33

SERMON

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

MUSIC: Shayla Brown "Here I Am Lord"

*DOXOLOGY: VU #540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free, that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU#421 Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

Sung Benediction: MV #156

**Dance with the Spirit early in the morning,
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,
Work & hope for the new life a-born-in,
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aug 13, 2017

308 King Street, Midland, On L4R 3

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

Email stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Website: www.stpaulsmidland.org,

Service and Discovery Kids 10 am

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

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Multi-Generational Community Worker - Paw Roe Shee

Bible Reader: Judy Hazell

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.

Welcome back to Shala Brown, who will be doing the special music today.

Pastoral Care: During the the month of August, the Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam will be available for pastoral care.

Annual Summerfest: The second annual St. Paul's Summerfest continues, and wow, what an event! Mark your calendars for the next two Wednesdays, to August 23rd. Full-course meal begins at 5:30 followed by family entertainment at 6:30. On the menu next week, (Wednesday August 16th) is roast beef, entertainment is Martha and Nonie. You can't beat this venue at a cost of \$15.00 for the full evening. So far, we've raised \$2,733 toward our accessibility project. Let's keep the momentum going!

Elevate Accessibility: We've come a long way together through the renovations. We are now **only \$22,822.06 away** from reaching our fundraising goal of \$250,000 from the congregation. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Elevate Accessibility Project through their givings, pledges, and supporting the numerous fundraising activities. Don't forget our "Loonies for a Lift" jar and the "Donate Now" button on our website. Let's continue to work together to reach our goal.

Coming up:

- ★ The next **Seniors Communion Tea** will be on August 24th at 11:30 a.m.
- ★ The next **Pastoral Care gathering** will be on September 13th, at 9:30 a.m.
- ★ St. Paul's annual **Beef Dinner** is Wednesday Sept 20th. There will be 2 sittings, 5:15 and 6:15 p.m. Tickets are now available at the Church office, from Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- ★ **Theological Studies Group** starts up again on Wednesday September 20th, from 11:00 to 12:30.
- ★ **UCW Rummage Sale** is Saturday September 30th, in the Great Hall. Donations will be received on Friday September 29th.
- ★ **UCW Soup and Salad Luncheon** is Saturday October 21st, in the Great Hall.
- ★ **Observer Reflections** will start up again on Oct 2nd at 7:00 p.m. The UCC Observer has some great articles. Bring the ones you want to discuss from the summer & September editions. All are welcome.



Autumn Newsletter: We are now mid-way through summer, and it's time to look ahead to fall. The autumn newsletter will be ready for delivery just before Labour Day, so we need your submissions of committee reports, articles, jokes, photos etc. **The deadline for your contribution is August 18th.**

Food donations: The Salvation Army Food bank is running short of items such as canned fruit and vegetables, peanut butter, canned pasta, pasta sauce, and crackers. If you're able to assist, please drop off your donations at the Salvation Army Food Bank located at 555 Dominion Avenue. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

