

St. Paul's United Church, Midland, ON

Sunday, Aug. 20, 2017

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

Music Director–Victoria Warwick

Multi-Generational Community Worker - Paw Roe Shee



PRELUDE AND HYMN SING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED

HYMN: VU#291 All Things Bright & Beautiful
(Refrain, vs 1,2,3, refrain, vs 4,5, refrain)

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)

Holy One, ancient stories and whales dying in the St. Lawrence seem far apart and yet faith is both old and always new. As we seek ways to live faithfully be with us in our time of worship. Amen

HYMN MEDLEY:

God of the Sparrow (VU #229)

When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

1. When hands reach out beyond divides and hope is truly found,
each chain of hate will fall away and bells of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound, and bells of peace shall sound,
each chain of hate will fall away and bells of peace shall sound.
2. When race and creed blind us no more, a neighbour's face we'll see,
and we shall dance the whole world round, for love will set us free,
for love, yes love will set us free, for love will set us free,
and we shall dance the whole world round, for love will set us free.

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

THEME CONVERSATION – The story of Moses and the Pharaoh's daughter (Exodus 1:8-2:10)

LORD'S PRAYER

(Discovery Kids with Paw Roe)

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (in unison)

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

SCRIPTURE READING: [Exodus 3:1-12](#)

SPECIAL MUSIC: Sheila Payne "Shall We Gather at the River"

SERMON

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC: Sheila Payne "Celtic Prayer"

*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: When Israel was in Egypt's Land

1. When Israel was in Egypt's land,
Let my people go.
Oppressed so hard they could not stand.
Let my people go.

Refrain

Go down, Moses
way down in Egypt's land.
Tell old Pharaoh, let my people go.

2. We need not always weep and mourn,
Let my people go.
And wear these slavery chains forlorn.
Let my people go.

Refrain

3. O let us all from bondage flee,
Let my people go.
And let us all in Christ be free.
Let my people go.

Refrain

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 20, 2017

308 King Street Midland, On L4R 3M6

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: Lorelei Blane-Smith

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 to Sheila Payne, 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.

Our sympathy and prayers to Daniel 'Dan' Webb and family on the death of Mary Ruth Webb. Visitation and memorial service arrangements here at St Paul's on Monday August 21st - Visitation from 12 Noon until the time of memorial service at 1 p.m. <http://www.canadianobituaries.com/simcoe/69698-mary-ruth-webb-august-11-2017>

New opportunity to volunteer: Interested in volunteering at the church? We are looking for 2-3 volunteers to work from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Monday to Thursday. This would be to welcome/assist visitors to the church and could be once a month or once a week, whatever suits your schedule. If interested, contact Rev. Karen or Louise Leck, or enquire at the church office.

Annual Summerfest: Mark your calendars for our final Summerfest event on Wednesday August 23rd. Full-course meal starts at 5:30 followed by family entertainment at 6:30. On the menu next week, (Wednesday August 23rd) is pulled pork, entertainment is Pipes and Drums. You can't beat this venue at a cost of \$15.00 for the full evening.

Elevate Accessibility:

We've come a long way together through the renovations. We are now **only \$22,777.06 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. We're almost there, so please spread the word. Imagine if 1,000 of our friends, neighbours and relatives gave \$25 each! 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, 5:00 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 October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. The UCC Observer has some great articles. Bring the ones you want to discuss from the summer and September editions. All are welcome.

Food donations: The Salvation Army Food bank is getting low on food 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 at 555 Dominion Avenue. Your donations are greatly appreciated.