

St. Paul's United Church, Midland

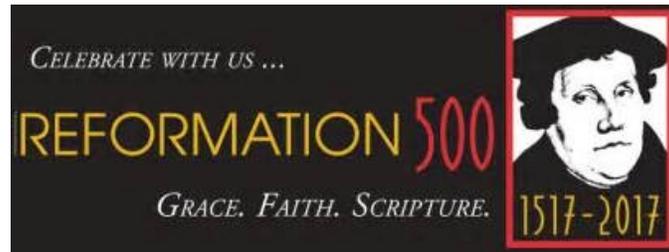
Sunday, October 29, 2017

500th Anniversary of the Reformation

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

Music Director–Victoria Warwick

Bible Reader: Sandra Flint



THOUGHTS TO PONDER: 500 years ago, a Catholic monk nailed his 99 theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany to debate the practice of selling indulgences. And so began the Protestant Reformation that changed the church and society around it. Faith by grace and the priesthood of all believers were just two ideas of a movement that was never expected.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED

HYMN: VU #378 (vs. 1,3,4) Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

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:

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's Grace.
I can feel the brush of angel's wings. I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

OPENING PRAYER: (unison)

Dear Father in heaven, for the sake of your dear Son Jesus Christ grant us your Holy Spirit, that we may be true learners of Christ, and therefore acquire a heart with a never-ceasing fountain of love. Amen. *(Martin Luther)*

HYMN MEDLEY:

GOD OF THE BIBLE

God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.

Refrain

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change. (2x)

Hope we must carry, shining and certain
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
bonding us gladly one to the other,
till our world changes facing the Cross.

Refrain

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change. (2x)

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)

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying VU #400

(Discovery Kids continues upstairs)

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERMON *by Luther*

SCRIPTURE: [I Thessalonians 2:1-8](#)

ANTHEM: One Song

SERMON: Reformation 500

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: My Soul is Thirsting

*DOXOLOGY: MV #135

**Called by earth and sky, Promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, Treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

DEDICATION OF THE "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" BANNER
~IN MEMORY OF MARIAN WILCOX

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: VU #262 A Mighty Fortress is our God
COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 29, 2017

www.stpaulsmidland.org

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.



Canadian Foodgrains Bank continues until November 5th. With the 4:1 matching from the Federal Government and the 1:1 matching from the St. Paul's Special Project Fund, every dollar you donate to Foodgrains will grow to \$10 worth of food for the hungry. Please make your cheques payable to St. Paul's United Church. So far in 2 weeks, the congregation has donated **\$2,525!**

Open House Volunteers: There will be a short meeting in the Parlour after the service today, to review tasks for our special day.

Celebration of the Accessibility Renovations (Open House) is November 4th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **Save the date!** Please join us to celebrate our new accessible space at this exciting community event! Opening Ceremonies at 1:00, followed by tours, special music and refreshments in the Great Hall. **Please help us get the word out.**



Calling all youth – grade six and up. Gather up your friends and come spend a couple of hours getting to know one another and exploring some activities for the fall and winter months. This will be at St. Paul's, on Sunday, November 5th, from 5:30-7:30 in the Great Hall. We will order pizza when people arrive.

Sunday November 26th is Welcoming Sunday. Interested in joining the church? Talk to Karen, Bev or Louise in the church office.

Captains and Volunteer counters – 2018 schedule: If any of the current captains or volunteers no longer wish to be included, OR if anyone does wish to be included in the schedule for 2018, please contact Ria Gerritsen at 705-538-2632 or the church office.

Coffee pot is on Monday to Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Atrium. Come on by and chat with our Connections Team, who are here to assist those who come needing information, directions to meeting locations, looking for lost items or seeking a quiet place while the office is closed.

OUR CORE VALUES

A LOVING AND ENGAGING COMMUNITY WITH DIVERSE AND OPEN
SPIRITUALITY AND WITH A RESPECT FOR ALL CREATION

OUR MISSION

TO BE AN OPEN, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
SEEKING SPIRITUALITY AND LOVING RELATIONSHIPS