

St. Paul's United Church, Midland  
Thanksgiving Sunday  
Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017



Ministers: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam & Rev. Bev Irwin  
Music Director–Victoria Warwick

PRELUDE

HYMN: VU #516 Come, You Thankful People, Come  
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

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:

HYMN MEDLEY:

**MV #138** **MY LOVE COLOURS OUTSIDE THE LINES**

1. My love colours outside the lines,  
exploring paths that few could ever find;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before,  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

*Refrain*

We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown,  
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.  
And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die,  
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.

2. My soul longs to colour outside the lines,  
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries  
where I've never been before,  
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

**MV #84** **IN YOU THERE IS A REFUGE**

1. In you there is a refuge, in you we find our peace.

When all we know is chaos may our trust in you increase.  
In you there is a silence, in you our minds are clear.  
When all we hear is discord may your quiet draw us near.

In you there is a vision, In you we learn to dream.  
When all we see is desert may you be our living stream.  
In you there is a future, in you we find our way.  
When hope has shed its brightness may you show us a new day.

**MV 81 (vs 3, 2x) LOVE US INTO FULLNESS**

Love us into fullness, and we will be strong;  
Jesus, walk beside us, fill our hearts with song. (2x)

THEME CONVERSATION

LORD'S PRAYER

*(Discovery Kids continues upstairs)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

**Forgive us, Gracious God, for our reluctance to share and our easy acceptance of the way things are.**

**Forgive us for the irreverent ways we treat your gifts and the way we take what we have for granted.**

**We trust in your mercy as we seek to be merciful to others.**

**We trust in your forgiveness as we seek to forgive others.**

**We trust in your love as we seek to love others. Amen**

*(Robin Wardlaw, Glen Rhodes U.C., Toronto. Gathering 2017 pg.44)*

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (unison) **May these wise words be a source of wisdom, courage and strength. Amen**

SCRIPTURE: [Deuteronomy 8:7-18](#)  
[2 Corinthians 9:6-15](#)

ANTHEM: Give Me A Grateful Heart

SERMON:

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: Come Ye Thankful People - Piano and Trombone Duet

\*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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: VU #529 We Plough The Fields And Scatter

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

SUNG BENEDICTION:

**Go in love; have no fear.  
God will guide you, God is always near.  
Go in Love; take God's hand.  
God will hear you, and will understand.  
May God's light forever shine upon you. May God's peace be always in your heart.  
Go in love; face each day.  
God will lead you, and will show the way.  
Go in love and live in faith. Amen.**

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POSTLUDE



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**308 King Street Midland, On L4R 3M6**

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Email [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com) Website: [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org),

Service and Discovery Kids 10 am

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

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Bible Reader: Zena Pendlebury

#### *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.

**Elevate Accessibility:** Just look at how far we've come as a community!

We've raised \$237,846.04 towards the congregational commitment of \$250,000. That's over 90% of our goal! With your generosity, we only have **\$12,153.96 to go!**



**The public Open House will be on November 4<sup>th</sup>** and we'd like to have the project paid off in time for that event. Please use the special **"Let's Get It Done!"** envelopes to help us reach our goal in time. Consider fulfilling your three-year pledges, using the "Donate Now" button and "Loonies for a Lift" jar as well. Thank you for your ongoing support!

**CONGRATULATIONS to Frank Graham** on receiving one of the highest honours of the Dutch government. He has had a special tulip created in his honour for his service in WWII. It is red with a black centre much like a poppy and is available for purchase at Norman's Garden Gallery.

**Fall Food Drive:** Our Thanksgiving food drive wraps up today. Thank You to all who have contributed to this much needed program.



**The UCW meets this Tuesday** at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlour. Our own Louise Leck will be our guest speaker and will speak on being a Foster parent. Everyone is welcome!

Next week is our **Foodgrains Sunday** and we will have a guest speaker.



**Volunteers are needed** for our Discovery Kids program. Please contact Bev if you are interested.

#### Coming up

- ★ **Defibrillator course** is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 until 2:00 p.m. A limited number of spaces is available for registrants, so if you're interested, please contact the church office.
- ★ **UCW Soup and Sandwich Luncheon** is Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>, in the Great Hall.
- ★ **A special Meeting of the Official Board** is scheduled for Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour.
- ★ **Guess who's coming to dinner - October 28<sup>th</sup>** - Stewardship is once again sponsoring this fundraising event. Anyone who has participated in the past knows what a great way this is to meet others in a home environment and be served an interesting meal. Your cost is a contribution to the church towards operating expenses. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please leave them at the church office when completed.
- ★ **Celebration of the Accessibility Renovations (Open House)** is November 4<sup>th</sup> – **Save the date!** The event is from 1:00 to 4:00 with Opening Ceremonies at 1:00, followed by tours, special music and refreshments in the Great Hall. Please help us get the word out. Volunteers are still needed, so if you're able to help, please contact the church office.
- ★ **On Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m., join the Afghan Women's Association at the Midland Public Library for a Canada 150 Digital Storytelling Event **REIMAGINING LIFE ON THE CANADIAN CANVAS**. They will be screening a series of digital stories of Canadians who arrived in Canada as refugees. You are invited to share your stories about your arrival to Canada, or of welcoming someone who was new to Canada. All are welcome!

