

St. Paul's United Church, Midland

Sunday, October 22, 2017

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

Music Director–Victoria Warwick

Bible Reader: Ron Neville



PRELUDE

HYMN: VU #232 Joyful, Joyful

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

One: Like the Thessalonians, may we be known for the way we live our faith in our world.

ALL: May our work of faith, labour of love and steadfastness of hope in Christ be true in our daily lives.

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)

**Holy One, help us to remember that "the church doesn't exist for its own sake, but to be a community that embodies God's justice, expresses God's compassion, and works relentlessly for God's vision of shalom."
Amen**

(The Right Reverend Jordan Cantwell, Moderator, The United Church of Canada)

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)

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 fear no longer guides our steps and days of war are done,
God's dream for all shall live anew; our hearts will heal as one,
our hearts will heal, will heal as one, our hearts will heal as one,
God's dream for all shall live anew; our hearts will heal as one.

OPEN OUR HEARTS

Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God. (2x)

THEME CONVERSATION:

LORD'S PRAYER *(Discovery Kids continues upstairs)*

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

SCRIPTURE: [1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22](#)

ANTHEM: The Hope We Have in Jesus

SERMON:

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: Are you a Shepherd

*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 #560 **O Master Let Me Walk With Thee**
COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

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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ANNOUNCEMENTS
October 22nd, 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.



The Canadian Foodgrains Bank campaign will continue until November 5th. There are extra envelopes on the back window for donations. Every dollar you donate will be matched by St. Paul's Special Project Fund, up to a maximum of \$5,000. Please make your cheques payable to St. Paul's United Church. Thank you for your support in helping to reduce world hunger.

Budget update: Here are the operating budget results as of the end of September:

Contributions - \$152,453 (Budget \$172,242 - shortfall \$19,788)

Expenses - \$217,882 (Budget \$230,835 - positive difference \$12,952).

The net deficit budget over actual to date is \$5,552. The contributions shortfall continues to concern your Stewardship Committee. With this trend continuing we may be looking for your help to avoid a deficit at the end of the year.

A special Board Meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday October 24th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour.

Guess who's coming to dinner October 28th: Get to know folks and help support the church with a donation for your meal. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the Sanctuary, in the Atrium and on the bottom of the name-tag board. Please leave your completed forms at the church office or in the envelope provided on the name-tag board.



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 5, from 5:30-7:30 in the Great Hall. We will order pizza when people arrive.



Order of the Eastern Star is having their annual Lasagna Dinner here at St. Paul's on Friday October 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

In Grandmothers Hands Huronia is having their annual African Luncheon this Tuesday, October 24th, at the Midland Legion. Lunch (by donation) will be served at noon. Donations go to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.