

**St. Paul's United Church,
Midland, On
HOLY HUMOUR & EARTH SUNDAY
April 23, 2017**



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

*Indicates to please stand as you are able.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: VU#232 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

SUNG INTROIT: Vu #187 Vs 1

**The spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!
The world has changed,
and God is at the heart of it!
New light, new day,
new colour after winter grey.
New light, new day,
the spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!**

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

**As we celebrate the gift of laughter, may we be reminded that it is God's gift to us.
As we honour our relationship with the earth, may we know it too is God's gift to us.
Amen**

HYMN MEDLEY

VU#624 *Give to Us Laughter*

MV#133 *Jesus Laughed Out Loud*

1. Jesus laughed out loud to see the children play;
his joyful presence drew a crowd we could not send away.
2. Jesus healed a child by asking her to rise,
and doubtful people wept and smiled to see her open eyes.

3. Jesus felt the need; we made the crowd sit down.
A boy had faith and all were fed, though we were far from town.
4. Jesus called my name when he was passing by;
my life will never be the same; this love will never die.

O *Beautiful Gaia* (refrain 2x)

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

THEME CONVERSATION

LORD'S PRAYER

(Children may go up to DISCOVERY KIDS now)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**May the scripture readings we hear today be a source of wisdom, courage and strength.
Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 104:1-23](#)

ANTHEM: The Blue Green Hills of Earth

SERMON

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY: VU # 581 Verse 2

Through all our living,

we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

we belong to God, we belong to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: VU#296 *This is God's Wondrous World*

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU# 424 Vs.1

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love & joy & peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light & hope to every land & race.**

Praying, let us work for peace,

singing, share our joy with all,

working for a world that's new,

faithful when we hear Christ's call.

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Please allow the choir to recess before leaving the Sanctuary.

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 23, 2017

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Email stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Website: www.stpaulsmidland.org,

like us on facebook!

Service and School 10am

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

Music Director: Victoria Warwick,
Bible Reader – Mary Jane Deacon

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.

New office hours: Just a reminder that the new office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Scent free environment: Due to the rising number of people who suffer from allergies to scents, we are asking if people could please refrain from wearing any scented products. Thank you.

Lenten Project: Thank you for supporting the UCC World Development and Relief around the global Mission & Service program. Next week we hope to have a final update on the amount donated.

Observer Reflection: Join us on Monday April 24th at 7 p.m. in the Parlour, to discuss articles in the U.C.C. magazine.

2017 Spring Bake Sale: Thank you to everyone who helped us make this another successful event. Our efforts raised a total of \$407.75!

St. Paul's Yearly Auction April 29, 2017: We still need donations of parishioners' talent and gently used quality items. No furniture or large items will be accepted. Start bringing your items to the church office this week. Your help in helping us make this a successful auction is greatly appreciated.

Open House May 13th, 2017 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Save the date and please join us in celebration of our building's transformation. Opening ceremony will be at 1:30 p.m. followed by tours, refreshments and ribbon cutting.

Hosting of Toronto Conference AGM 2017: From May 25th to 27th and for the second consecutive year, St. Paul's will be hosting the Toronto Conference of the United Church right here in Midland. This is just over a month away. We still require a few more volunteers, so if you're able to help us out for 4 hours, it would be greatly appreciated! Please return your completed volunteer applications to the church office no later than April 30th. If you have any questions, please call Zena Pendlebury at 705-527-6789, or Marlis Dupuis at 705-549-2018. Thank you.

Help Elevate Accessibility Now: Project & Fundraising Update:

Exciting news!!! The orange tarps are now down, 95% of the construction is complete and the finishing touches are being applied to the accessibility renovations. Although we're seeing the drywall dust settle and there's a light at the end of the tunnel, we still need your help! The congregation still has approximately 25% of their \$250,000 commitment to fulfill through your pledges and support.

Sistema Huronia Music Academy is having a Fundraising Variety Show on Saturday April 22nd at 2 p.m. at the Midland Alliance Church - 829 Yonge Street in Midland. Free will Offering - donations of \$20 or more are tax deductible.

Chili Dinner and Silent Auction: On Tuesday April 25th, the 4th Midland Scouts will be hosting a Chili Dinner & Silent Auction from 5:00 pm until 7:30 pm. Dinner will consist of chili (choice of 10 different homemade varieties), bun, dessert and beverage. Please come out and help us meet our goal so that the Midland Scouts can attend the National Scouting Jamboree in Halifax this July.

Canadian Cancer Society is having their 6th annual Elmvale Daffodil Luncheon & Tea on Wednesday April 26th, 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - cost \$7.00. Event is at the Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen Street East, Elmvale. Tickets available at the door.