



308 King St, Midland, Ontario.

LENT 1

Communion Sunday

March 5th, 2017



Phone 705-526-6077, fax 705-526-4020

Email stpaulsunity@rogers.com

Website: www.stpaulsmidland.org – like us on facebook

CORE VALUES

LOVING AND ENGAGING COMMUNITY

DIVERSE AND OPEN SPIRITUALITY

RESPECT FOR ALL CREATION

MISSION STATEMENT

TO BE AN OPEN, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

SEEKING SPIRITUALITY AND LOVING

Click here to go to the [Announcements](#)

Welcome

SUNDAY, 5th March 2017

Joint Service with Waverley United Church

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

Director of Music – Victoria Warwick

Pre-Service Music - Rick Taylor

Bible Reader: Pat File

Administrator - Judy McConnell, Custodian - Mary Ellen Petticrew

Captain of the greeters for March is Sheila Thompson

Captain of the Counters is Tom Barber DVD's are being delivered by Diane & Graham Patchell

Communion Preparers – Louise Rachey and Sharon Foster

*When you see this sign, please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN VU# 108** Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights!

WELCOME AND WHAT'S A HAPPENING

CALL TO THE GATHERED (responsive)

One: Our Lenten journey calls us to venture along the rocky road of challenge and blessing.

ALL: We are guided by ancestors who led with compassion and faithfulness.

One: We follow Jesus Christ, who is our teacher and companion.

ALL: Christ is our example and friend. Thanks be to God! Amen.

(Laura Turnbull, Penticton U.C., Gathering Lent/Easter 2017 pg. 28 – Used with permission)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

INTROIT: MV# 28 (vs 2)

**God in the struggles, God in our hunger,
Suffering with us, taking our part,
Still you empower us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.**

OPENING PRAYER (responsive)

One: Having crossed over into this Lenten desert, we stop to look back. We could return, go running back to the river where we heard Your voice. We could also dive beneath its cold refreshing waters, wash the dust from our bodies, the doubt from our hair, and the fear from our souls. And yet, God, your spirit is stronger than our fear. You drive us forward further into the wilderness. Here we will stumble. We will lose our way. We will be forced to face those very things we spend so much energy denying: grief, pain, anger, and shame. How can we ever embrace such beasts without suffering? But you never promise that, do you? You never promise that living and loving won't hurt. You only promise that You will be with us.

ALL: And so we pray, bless the journey. Bless it with courage. Bless it with wisdom. Bless it with tears, too, for like the river we long for, these tears will wash the dust from our faces and clear our eyes just enough to see the path before us. So, be it. Amen.

(Nora Vedress, Calvary U.C., Prince Albert, Saskatchewan Lent/Easter 2017 pg. 29 – Used with permission)

HYMN MEDLEY

WHEN WE GATHER AT THE TABLE

1. **When we gather at the table**
wine is poured and bread is broken.
Then love claims us, offering healing,
we hear welcome, gently spoken.
2. **Jesus offers our thanksgiving**
blessing God for life we're given.
From the earth comes grain to feed us
watered by the rains of heaven.
3. **Word of promise claims attention**
earth renewed by God's designing.
All the creatures join in praises -
God's intended wholeness finding.
4. **Come, invited, now draw nearer,**
join this holy celebration.
Here be strengthened, called to justice,
living now God's new creation.
5. **Christ, your coming and your hosting**
gives us place at widening table
now embracing world and neighbour
Spirit strong, by love enabled.

OPEN OUR HEARTS

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

THEME CONVERSATION – Meaning of Lent!

LORD'S PRAYER *(children please stay with your family)*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS VU# 932 (sung)

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory,
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION VU#933 (sung twice)

Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come, come again.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (unison) Louis FitzGerald Benson

All: For the bread which has been broken, for the wine that has been poured, for the words which have been spoken, we give you thanks O Lord.
By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to live for justice, hallow our lives, O Lord. Amen

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (Said by ALL)

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Psalm 32, Matt 4: 1-11

SERMON

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

One Bread, One Cup, One Faith!

***DOXOLOGY:**

MV #79

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.

Spirit open my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN**

VU# 481

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

*** CHORAL AMEN**

VU# 974

Hallelujah Amen

(Reproduced with permission under license #c607447)

Please allow the choir to recess before leaving the Sanctuary.

Postlude

Announcements



for March 5th 2017 Sunday Service and School 10am

Due to the rising number of people with allergies to scents we request that you avoid using scented products. Thank you for your considerate attention to this.



We have a heart defibrillator on site, located on the wall outside the minister's office, on this level, near the parlour. At the defibrillator is a list of people who have been trained in its use, but it is very easy to use and will walk you thru the steps needed. First Aid Kits ~ are located in the church office, in the kitchenette beside the parlour, in the main kitchen downstairs, in the area outside the sanctuary by the chair lift, and in the room of requirement upstairs.



Are you new to St. Paul's?

Whether you're just visiting or looking to stay, it is great to have you with us. Please make yourself known to our greeters, and pick up a welcome package. Please join us after the service for refreshments, in our Great Hall and find out more about St. Paul's and get connected into the community. **What to expect** - The only thing we ask you to do is to relax. You are with people just like you. Whether you have been here many times or never been to Church before, you can anticipate an encouraging and enlightening experience. **Today coffee will be served in the Great Hall compliments of our United Church Women.**

****Important Message****

Our construction company has reminded us that **only authorized personnel are allowed in the construction zone**. No one, at any time, should be in this area. This is a safety issue for us all and your continued co-operation is greatly appreciated! Thank You!

The Fellowship Club is hosting a **POT LUCK SUPPER**
on Tuesday March 7th here in the Great Hall at 5:30pm.

Bring your favourite casserole, dessert or salad and your own dishes and cutlery.

Jeremiah Hill will be joining us and entertaining us with his acoustic guitar, and mellow, folksy singing. Come out and enjoy the food and entertainment.

Everyone is welcome and this is a great opportunity to meet more people and possibly join the club.



Host of Toronto Conference AGM 2017. The Toronto Conference Planning Committee is looking for volunteers again this year! **Conference dates are May 26, 27, 2017.** Volunteers will also be needed Thursday, May 25th to set up the arena meeting site. Up to (45) helpers will be needed to work specifically at the NSSRC over 3 days plus up to another (25) people at St. Paul's primarily on Saturday, May 27th. ***Volunteer applications are on the back window, and available through [our website](#), please complete and return by April 30th to: Zena Pendlebury, Don Penrose, Marlis Dupuis or leave at the church office.**

Observer Magazine: Would you like to receive the Observer magazine, or renew it? The deadline for renewal is March 15th. Please let the church office know if you wish to renew or receive the Observer. The cost of a subscription for the year is \$25.00 payable to the church. Thank You!

St. Paul's Yearly Auction 2017 – of the talents of our parishioners is on Saturday April 29th. This year we will be accepting your donations of talent, ***but*** we will also be accepting gently used items. We are looking for quality items, we also would like to hold these quality items to one per family. We will **not** be able to accept furniture or large items. A time and date will be announced when you can bring in those items – **we reserve the right to only accept quality used items.**

Help Elevate Accessibility Now: Project & Fundraising Update:

We are well underway with the accessibility renovations to make our building more inclusive to the community. The **total cost of this project is over \$750,000** and the **congregation's financial commitment is to raise \$250,000** (approximately one third of the total project cost). An update on the project expenses and funds was provided aill occur at the General Meeting in February. As we've reported last week, we're thankful for the generosity of the congregation. To date, **\$194,149.00 (recalculated amount)** has been donated and there is only **\$55,851.00** to go! Thank you for your continued generosity and we encourage you remember the Accessibility Fund in your annual pledge, use the "Donate Now" button on the website, and don't forget to watch for upcoming fundraising activities in the months to come. Together, we will create an accessible space for all in 2017! Thank you for your support!

Communion Preparers! We are looking for volunteers to prepare our communion elements one Sunday in the year. Please contact the church office at 705-526-6077 or at stpaulsunited@rogers.com if you can help!

York Regional Police Male Chorus Concert on April 1st at 7pm at the Salvation Army, Midland. Admission \$10 – all proceeds will go to Missions work. 555 Dominion Ave, Midland



The **VON exercise classes** are on Tuesday and Thursdays at 12 noon in the gym. Those who attend are pleased that they are enjoying the results of the strengthening exercises. You too can join them at any time. We do strengthening and balance exercises each week with each person working at their own pace and level. Everyone is welcome!

If the weather is poor the class will be cancelled.



Happy March birthday from your family at St. Paul's!

3 rd	Kay Brown	16 th	Joan Hough
4 th	Bruce Middleton	17 th	Heather Tilson
	Mu La Eh Dah Soe	18 th	Finn Rylee Edward Sauve
	Bernice Thompson	19 th	Rick Gerritsen
6 th	Cathy Barker	21 th	Bev Irwin
8 th	Paul Van der Wel		Barbara Lalonde
9 th	David Walker	22 th	Don Hough
11 th	Marina Josey	26 th	Hannah Hornsby
	Ruth Sutherland	29 th	Allan James
14 th	Cam Bonner	31 th	Jean Wagg
16 th	Ruth Freund		
	Echo Godsmark		

CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



Don't forget about the church library, located near Karen's office and the parlour. This is our lending library and there are lots of interesting titles.

In case of a pastoral emergency you may call
Karen at home at 705-355-0224 or email address:
minsucmidland@gmail.com
or Bev at 705-549-9896 or email her at:
bev.irwin@sympatico.ca