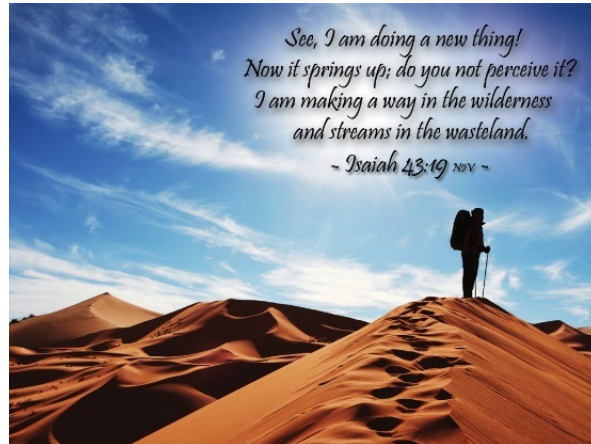


**St. Paul's United Church, Midland, ON**  
**Sunday, July 9, 2017**

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



**"Behold I Do A New Thing"**  
Isaiah 43:19

SOMETHING TO PONDER: Do you find it hard getting out of bed in the mornings? Is it hard to get motivated? Do you complain a lot about the state of the world, people and the community? What do you see when you view your life? Do you see possibilities or problems?

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMERTIME HYMN SING (your pick)

CALL TO THE GATHERED (responsive)

One: Today is a gift: a gift of life and a gift of community.

**All: We are here to celebrate those gifts.**

One: Come little child, come you young hearts and minds, come you seasoned elders, let us celebrate being together.

**All: We are here to celebrate each other.**

One: Come friends, let us be open to the transforming presence of the Holy Mystery.

**All: We celebrate this holy time.**

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: VU #958 (sung twice) **Halle, halle, halle**

PRAYER OF THE GATHERED (in unison)

**God of Love and wondrous compassion: calm us when the storms of living seem overwhelming; encourage us when the challenges of life come our way; and guide us when the road seems uncertain.**

**God of wondrous surprises, give us wisdom and a sense of joy in our living. Guide us and transform us in this time together. In community and as Easter people we pray, Amen.**

THEME CONVERSATION "God's Little Workshop"  
LORD'S PRAYER (sung VU#960)  
(Discovery Kids Activity)

SPECIAL MUSIC – **It Is No Secret** - Sharon Foster

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (in unison)

**May these offerings of scripture be a source of wisdom, courage and strength.  
Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 85:6-8; Micah 6:8; Matthew 22:36-40](#)

HYMN - VU#356 Seek Ye First

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.
3. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Hallelu, hallelujah.

REFLECTION

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC - **O Lord Most Holy** (Panis Angelicus) Sharon Foster

\*DOXOLOGY: VU#540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU#633 Bless Now, O God, the Journey

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

Sung Benediction: MV#156

**Dance with the Spirit  
early in the morning,  
Walk with the Spirit  
throughout the long day,  
Work & hope for the new life a-born-in,  
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

POSTLUDE



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**July 9, 2017**

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

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

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: Pat File

### ***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.

**Welcome** to Paw Roe, our summer student. Paw Roe is our multi-generational program staff member for the second year in a row. She brings a youthfulness and energy to our congregation. Paw Roe will be with us for 8 weeks.

**Welcome** and thank you to Sharon Foster, who will be singing the special music today.\_

**Pastoral Care:** During the month of July, the Rev. Bev Irwin will be available for pastoral care. Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam will be available during the month of August.

**Pastoral Care Visitors Workshop:** Are you currently a pastoral care visitor or do you wish to become a volunteer for a few hours per week or month? We have a growing number of home-bound folk who would welcome a visit on behalf of the St. Paul's church family. Bev is planning a Pastoral Visitor Planning Workshop on July 24<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. to meet, organize and share tips for visiting. This is a very important ministry of St. Paul's. **Please let Bev know of your interest.**

**Fundraising Dance Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>:**

*The music still lives on.* Save the date for this event, featuring The Desotos. Tickets are selling fast, so get yours soon. The Dance Committee is looking for volunteers to help at the dance, so if you're interested, please speak with Gail.

**Annual Summerfest:** The second annual St. Paul's Summerfest begins July 19<sup>th</sup>, running every Wednesday until August 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be full course meals and entertainment.

**Elevate Accessibility:** We're getting closer to reaching the congregational goal of raising \$250,000 towards the Elevate Accessibility renovation. With the most recent donation of \$2,500 from the Huronia Community Foundation, we are only short \$29,201.82 of the congregation's donation target. For those of you who wish to spread the word, don't forget to let your friends and family know about the "Donate Now" button on our website [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org) where you can direct your donation towards the project. Let's work together to meet our financial commitment in time for the Open House this Fall. Together, we can do it!

**Chief Dan George 1967 Lament:** For those of you interested in reviewing the video from last Sunday's service, its available at: <http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/937471043585>  
Bev has additional copies available of the full text.

**Camp Awesome – July 31-August 4:** "Make a Joyful Noise" – a great opportunity for children ages 5-12, from 9 am to noon. There are lots of activities including stories, games, music, crafts, snacks, fun and adventure! Please see Paw Roe to register.

