

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Ministers: Rev. Bev Irwin and Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam  
Music Director—Victoria Warwick  
Discovery Kids – Colleen Gareau



\*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

\*HYMN: VU #87 I am the Light of the World vs. 2,3,4

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED

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 RESPONSE: MV #46 Refrain, vs. 3

Bless our God, O my soul,  
Bless God's holy name. (2x)  
Remember the healing love of God.  
Who calls us to be whole and to be free.  
Bless our God...

OPENING PRAYER:

HYMN MEDLEY:

MV #120 My Soul Cries Out

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

*Refrain:*

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the  
age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for  
you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is  
about to turn.

*Refrain*

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left  
on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his  
throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never  
earn;  
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to  
turn.

*Refrain*

4. Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us  
fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds  
us bound,  
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the  
world around.

*Refrain*

VU #01      What Does the Lord Require

1. What does the Lord require of you?
2. Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.
3. To seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

THEME CONVERSATION/LORD'S PRAYER

(Discovery Kids head upstairs)

ANTHEM:                      One Song

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT:

SCRIPTURE READING: [Micah 6:8](#); [Luke 4:16-30](#)

SERMON:                      Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCC New Creed  
   We are called to be the Church...  
   To seek justice and resist evil.

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY:                      VU #700      God of Freedom, God of Justice

\*DOXOLOGY:                      MV#135 Refrain  
   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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN: VU#699 Live Into Hope

\*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

(Based on Colossians 1:9–12)

I pray for you, my kindred;  
please pray for me. May God give us wise minds and open spirits!  
May we listen wisely, resisting evil, seeking justice, risking faith,  
daring hope.

May we live well with our Creator, working hard in the berry patch.  
May we work for the long haul, glad of good companions on the way.  
May joy spill over and every cup overflow!

GC43 Worship created by Barb Janes, Min Goo Kang, Ted Dodd, Susie McPherson-Derendy, Deanna Zantigh, and musical team Saya Ojiri and Bri-anne Swan.

\*SUNG BENEDICTION: MV#215

Peace be with you, peace forever, peace be with you my friends.  
Till we meet again, may God be with you. Peace, peace, peace.

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## Announcements

Sunday Sept. 23, 2018

[www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://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.

Greeters: Some of our teams are getting quite depleted, especially as so many of our folks go away in the winter. If you are interested, please speak to Sheila Thompson.



Stewardship Café: You can order coffee again today and pick up previously ordered coffee in the Great Hall after the service. Coffee orders can be placed at the office during the week for delivery one week later.

A Play in a Manger: We still have space for any children/youth who would like to be a part of our Christmas Musical. Whether you'd like a speaking line, or would just like to be in the chorus, we would LOVE to have you. Rehearsals are Saturdays in the Sanctuary from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For more information speak to Victoria or Colleen.



St. Paul's Thanksgiving Food Drive starts today and continues September 23 through October 7. Please be thankful for your blessings and share with those that are less fortunate.

St. Paul's Annual Beef Dinner is this Wednesday, September 26, 2018, with 2 seatings - 5:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the church office. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to St. Paul's operating fund. Sharon Whiteside will be selling tickets after church today.



UCW Garage Sale is on Saturday September 29, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. Donations will be received on Friday September 28, 2018. If you need help to get your donations to the church, please contact Zena Pendlebury at 705-527-6789.

Observer Reflections will resume on Monday October 1, 2018.

The Worship Committee will be decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving on October 5, 2018. If you can help with donations of gourds, pumpkins, root vegetables etc. please bring your donations to the church on Thursday October 4, in the afternoon.

Bible Study will start up again on Monday October 15, 2018.

The fall session of Art & Spirituality starts on Saturday, October 13, 2018, in the Upper Room. The course runs for eight weeks, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$80 including supplies. Register with Joan Neville at 705-526-3276.



UCW Soup and Sandwich Luncheon is on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Great Hall.

We have a system for hearing support.



Please speak to an usher for assistance.