

WE ARE GATHERED

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

A Time of Centering

Call to Worship

One: We are gathered by the Spirit of God.

All: We come from our busyness, our many different lives, our over-committed hours, our preoccupations, our worries and our concerns.

One: We are welcomed by the living Christ who invites us to lay aside, for the next little while, those things that would prevent us from being fully present.

All: We open our hearts and our minds to the Spirit of God who is working among us and through us this morning.

One: We are the beloved of God, precious in God's sight and beautiful to behold.

All: Let us worship our God of love.

Hymn: MV #161 I Have Called You by Your Name

1. I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.  
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.  
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.
2. I will help you learn my name as you go;  
read it written in my people, help them grow.  
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,  
offer Jesus' body given long ago.
3. I know you will need my touch as you go;  
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.  
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,  
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.
4. I have given you a name, it is mine;  
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.  
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;  
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

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:*

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*

MV #12 Come Touch Our Hearts (vs.1, 2, 5)

1. Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,  
from failing embers build a blazing fire;  
love strong enough to overturn injustice, to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.
2. Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,  
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;  
create a space for spirit to grow in us, let life and beauty fill us,  
come touch and bless our souls.
5. Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,  
to break the bread and share the cup of peace;  
that we may love you with our heart, our soul, our mind, our strength, our all,  
come touch us with your grace.

THEME CONVERSATION - Time with Young People

*(Discovery Kids head upstairs)*

Litany of Remembrance

God says, "Look, I'm up to something new. It's happening right now. Don't you see it?"

Well, actually no.

But I told you it was coming. I sent my prophets to let you know.

I guess that we were busy that day. Besides, prophets are such a downer.

You know from the stories in the Bible that I am still working on creation, it is not finished.

Couldn't you just let us know when it's done?

Actually, I was hoping for your help.

Our help? You're talking about creation here. What can we do?

You can be co-creators with me as we build my kingdom on earth. Keep in touch and I'll teach you all you need to know.

That sounds like a lot of work. What makes you think we are up to it?

You are the Creator, after all.

I have created you in my image, the image of love. Love is all you need to do the work of the kingdom. Together we will create a world that is just, healthy and

whole.

Amen. May it be so.

Anthem: O Great God

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: [Isaiah 43:15 – 21](#)

Community Reflection: Creation 2.0

WE RESPOND

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: 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.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

Ground of all being, Mother of life, Father of the universe, your name is sacred, beyond speaking. May we know your presence, may your longings be our longings in heart and in action. May there be food for the human family today and for the whole earth community. Forgive us the falseness of what we have done. as we forgive those who are untrue to us. Do not forsake us in our time of conflict but lead us into new beginnings. For the light of life, the vitality of life, and the glory of life are yours now and forever. Amen.

*paraphrase by John Philip Newell*

WE ARE SENT OUT

Hymn: VU #713 I See a New Heaven

\*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

\*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. 30, 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.

Welcome and thank you to Rev. George Moore, our guest minister today.

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 Cafe: 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.

Observer Reflections start up date has been changed to Monday November 5, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.



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

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.

UCW meets on Tuesday October 9, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlour. Guest speaker will be Marjolyn Van der Wel.

On October 11, 2018 Sister Nuala Kenny, SC, OC, MD, will be at St. Paul's to share with us a "Compassionate Response to Dying" in today's world. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with presentation at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free (free will offering). Register on-line at: <https://ddccom.eventbrite.com> For additional information, contact Robert Sykes at (705) 529-6718 or Tim Dunlop at (705)528-2927.



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

Next Youth Group meeting (ages 13 – 17) is on Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rebecca Arbour, Youth Volunteer Coordinator at Georgian Manor. Questions? Contact Colleen at [cgareau02@gmail.com](mailto:cgareau02@gmail.com).



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

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.

St Paul's United Church, 308 King St, Midland, Ontario L4R 3M6, Canada