



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

***A special welcome to The Children's Community Choir, and to their director  
Victoria Warwick , and accompanist Colin Eccles.***

PRELUDE

CAROL: VU #64 O Little Town of Bethlehem

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

SPECIAL MUSIC: Children's Community Choir – Light a Candle

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

One: Today we kindle the Advent Candle of peace. We welcome the glow that causes us to pause, the glow that entices us to gather together and work for peace.

**Sung Response: All**

Light a candle, a symbol of peace.  
Light a candle that fighting might cease,  
Light a candle to shine in the dark,  
Light a candle, open your heart.  
Light a candle, and open your heart.



OPENING PRAYER:

CAROL MEDLEY:

VU #46 Gentle Mary

- Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;  
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Saviour?  
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favour.**

2. **Angels sang about his birth, wise men sought and found him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.**

VU #73 The Virgin Mary

**The virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
The virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
The virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
and they say that his name is Jesus.  
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh yes! Believer! Oh yes! Believer!  
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.**

THEME CONVERSATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

*(Discovery Kids continue upstairs for the younger children.  
Older children are invited to remain for the rest of the service)*



PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT:

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

SCRIPTURES: [Luke 1:26-38](#)

ANTHEM: Children's Community Choir – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

SERMON

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: Children's Community Choir – The Star

\*DOXOLOGY: MV#182

**Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,  
Joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of love.  
Grateful for the birth of Jesus, thankful for Emmanuel,  
Jesus born in Bethlehem and in our hearts as well.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CAROL: VU#69 Away in a Manger

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE





**Announcements**  
**Sunday December 9, 2018**  
[www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org)

**Advent Services 10 am**

**Advent 3** – Dec 16<sup>th</sup> - Children's Musical (A Play in a Manger)  
and Pot Luck Luncheon.

**Advent 4** – Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Choir Cantata

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**, Christmas Eve Service - 7 pm.  
Come join us with your friends



**Serenata and St. Paul's Choir Concert** is this evening at 7:30 p.m.  
This is a joint fundraiser for The Guest House Shelter.



**Youth Group** (ages 12 – 17) meets this evening from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
We will be assembling and decorating gingerbread houses to donate to  
the Monday morning Drop-In group. Come out and have some creative  
and messy fun!



The **United Church Women** will meet on Tuesday, December 11 at 12:30 p.m. in  
the Great Hall for a Christmas Luncheon/meeting. All are welcome!

**St. Paul's Annual Christmas pot luck lunch** is next Sunday, December 16, 2018  
immediately following the service. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy food and fellowship, a  
carol sing-along and perhaps a special guest! Please bring your favourite entrée, salad or  
dessert to share.

**Coming soon** - St. Paul's 2019 calendar!! Lovely photos of our beautiful building and  
wonderful congregation. These would make a nice Christmas gift!

Still looking for gifts for your coffee-loving friends? Consider a bag of coffee from **St. Paul's  
Café** and support our church. Orders can be placed on Sunday after the service, or at the  
church office.

**Christmas Food Drive**

St. Paul's annual Christmas Food Drive continues today through to December 16, 2018. **Please  
share because you do care.**

**Monday Morning Drop-In:**

Please help us provide gift bags for the clients of the Drop-In by choosing a gift from our  
display poster in the atrium. The last day to contribute is Monday December 10<sup>th</sup>, by 10:00  
a.m. Thank you everyone for your generosity!



UCW Church Calendars:

A limited number of 2019 UCW calendars are available at a cost of \$6.00 each. Please contact Helen French at 705-526-8293 if you are interested

***The beautiful poinsettias in the Sanctuary have been placed in memory of loved ones:***

In loving memory of **Bob Broome and Gary Price**, from Marilyn & family.

In memory of **Mother, Father and sister Ellen**, from Tom Barber.

In memory of loved ones from Anne & Joe Faragher & family and Lenore & Ivan Price & family.

In memory of **Jim Nicholson**, loving husband, father & grandfather, placed by his family.

In memory of parents, grandparents and other family members, from Ken & Doreen Gunson.

In memory of **Norm Ellis** & other family members, from the Ellis family.

In loving memory of son **Scott Bertram**, from Velma and Harold Bertram.

In loving memory of our daughter **Kelli Coryell Morriss**, from Bob & Jean Coryell.

In loving memory of **Audrey Draper**, from Norm Draper.

In loving memory of our son **Chris Erb**, from Peter & Joyce Erb.



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