

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, March 11th, 2018
Lent 4



Ministers: Rev. Bev Irwin & Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Music Director: Victoria Warwick
Discovery Kids: Colleen Gareau
Scripture Reader: Jean Brocklebank

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

*HYMN VU#112 O God How We Have Wandered

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED

EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLES

SUNG RESPONSE: VU#186 vs. 4

**When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
Your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
Love is come again, Like wheat arising green.**

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN MEDLEY

Bathe Me in Your Light (MV #82)

**Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.**

**Bathe me in your love, O Source of Awe and Wonder;
help me walk the sacred path of harmony and peace.
May I be attentive to the musings of your presence,
drinking from the well of hope that brings the heart release.**

**Bathe me in your grace, O One of Spirit's longing;
teach me of your gentle ways that fill the soul with strength.
Guide me on the pilgrimage that leads to truth and wholeness,
fill me with your promise of a love that knows no length.**

Come Touch Our Hearts (MV #12 vs. 1,3)

- 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.**
- 3. Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom,
come touch and bless our minds.**

Spirit, Open My Heart (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.**

THEME CONVERSATION/LORD'S PRAYER

(Children leave for Discovery Kids)

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

SCRIPTURE:

[John 3:14-21](#)

ANTHEM:

"Hands United in Peace"

SERMON

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN VU #581 "When We are Living"

*OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE

**All that we have, all that we are, we offer here today.
To bring good news of hope & joy to cherish on the way.
To feed the hungry, heal the sick, and set the captive free.
To build a world where love is lived, proclaiming liberty.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN: VU #271 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (vs. 1,2,4,5)

*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

* A SUNG LENTEN RESPONSE MV #20 (vs.1)

**God of still waiting, God of deep longing,
God of the heart's true rest:
Hold us in fathomless peace,
Guard us with unwaning love.**

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS
March 11th, 2017 www.stpaulsmidland.org

**LENT/EASTER SERVICES
AT ST. PAUL'S**

Lent 5
March 18 – 10 am

Palm Sunday
March 25 – 10 am

Maundy Thursday
March 29 - 7pm

Good Friday
March 30 - 10 am

Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday April 1
Little Lake Park - 7 am
Followed by breakfast at
St. Paul's at 8 am

Easter Sunday Service
April 1 – 10 am

Easter Food Drive: Winter has been long and hard on the supplies at the food banks. There is an ongoing demand to help those who are destitute and in need of mere survival basics, such as food and shelter. Please remember what was given for us and remember to *share because we care*. St. Paul's food drive will occur on Sunday March 18, March 25 and April 1.

Please leave your donations on the 2 small pews in the corner of the Sanctuary, near the organ console.



Theological Studies Group meets on **Wednesdays** from 11:00 to 12:30. We are studying Bishop John Spong's "A New Christianity for a New World". If you're interested, please contact Karen.

Auction of Talent and Beautiful Things (Talent Auction) is on Saturday April 28 in the Great Hall. Viewing is at 9:30 a.m. followed by



the auction at 10:00 a.m. A light lunch will be available for purchase.

St. Paul's Youth Group will meet again on Sunday April 8. The theme is "*Bring Your Own Utensil*". Friends are always welcome. For more information, contact Colleen at: cgareau02@gmail.com

CAMP AWESOME – is July 30 - August , 2018, from 9:00 am to noon at St. Paul's. **SAVE THE DATE!** Kitchen help will be needed, so if you're able to assist, please contact Colleen at: cgareau02@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer pastoral care visitors are needed. Please contact Bev at (705)526-6077 or Sheila Thompson at (705) 526-2186 for more details.

2018 Toronto Conference of the United Church

This year's event is May 25 and 26, with set up day on Thursday May 24.

Volunteers are still needed. Volunteer applications are available on the back window in the Sanctuary or on our website at: <http://www.stpaulsmidland.org/> under "Getting Involved". You can **contact Zena at:** zenapendlebury@hotmail.com or call (705) 527-6789.