

**Ministers: The Reverend Bev Irwin**

**Reverend Karen Ptolemy-Stam**

**Music Director: Victoria Warwick**

Something to ponder: Epiphany is celebrated on January 6<sup>th</sup> and marks the end of the twelve days of Christmas. Until recently, Christmas was celebrated beginning on December 25<sup>th</sup> and only then were Christmas carols sung. Epiphany means "Manifestation of God in our world." It often refers to God as light as the magi followed the light of the star.

(\*Please stand as you are able.)

\*HYMN: VU #81 As with Gladness

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

One: As we light this Christ candle may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

Sung response:

**I am the Light of the World!**

**you people come and follow me.**

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery**

**of what you were meant to do and be.**

OPENING PRAYER: VU #88

Hymn Medley:

VU #96 Will You Come and See the Light

VU #82 A Light is Gleaming

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS VU# 932 (sung)

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosanna in the Highest!**

**Blessed is the one who comes in your name.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION VU #933 2x  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come, come again.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ALL: **Holy One, you who are the light of the world and the light of our lives, continue to spark us to be your people in the midst of chaos and darkness. May the bread and wine we have tasted this day remind us always that even in suffering, you give hope and courage to work for the kingdom of God wherever we are in the world. Amen**

*(Discovery Kids continues upstairs)*

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6, Matt. 2:1-12

SERMON: "Searching the Unknown"

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

\*OFFERTORY: MV #82 Bathe Me in Your Light

Sung Response: 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

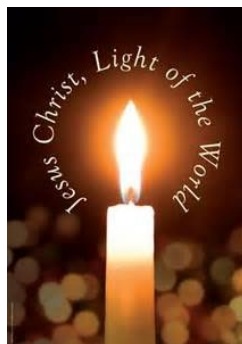
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN: VU #87 I am the Light of the World

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

\*SUNG BENEDICTION: VU #974

**Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen. (2x)**





## Announcements

Sunday January 6, 2019  
[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.

Deadline for any **last-minute 2018 donations** to St. Paul's United Church is January 7, 2019.

**Observer Reflections** starts up again on Monday January 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



**UCW meets on January 8** at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlour, for election of officers.

**Faith and Science study group** resumes on Friday January 11, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.



**Youth Group (ages 13 to 17)** meets on Sunday January 13, 2019, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come join us for our 2019 planning session.

**Bible Study** resumes on Monday January 14, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

**Official Board** meets on January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour.

**Pledge card reminder** - If you have not completed and handed in your pledge card, it's not too late. We are working on the 2019 budget and your pledge card to the church is a very important part of that budget.

**St Paul's budget time:** Every year at this time we ask each committee to tell us their goals for expenses and fundraising for the next 12 months. Budget forms have been sent to all committees. Once you have had a discussion with your members, please complete the form and **return it to the church office by January 15<sup>th</sup>**.



**2018 Annual Report:** Its that time of year again, so we ask that all committees please have your reports in to the church office by e-mail, no later than Monday January 21, 2019. The date for the annual meeting will be announced soon.

**St. Paul's 2019 calendars are still available** at the church office at a cost of \$15 each. Proceeds go to St. Paul's United Church.



You can order coffee again this week and pick up previously ordered coffee in the Great Hall after the service. Coffee orders can be placed at the office during the week, with delivery one week later.



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