

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH -Sunday, May 12, 2024  
CHRISTIAN FAMILY SUNDAY & BLESSING OF THE PRAYER  
SHAWLS**

**Minister:** Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

**Music Director:** Victoria Warwick

**Readers:** Dan Donaldson, Carol MacDonald, Rosemary

**Singers/Musicians:** St Paul's Choir

**Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME /CALL TO THE GATHERED/ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF  
THE LAND**



**OPENING HYMN: VU# 409 "Morning Has Broken"**

1. Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven;  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**OPENING PRAYER:** read by Rosemary

**LIGHTING 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 #79 Refrain**

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**

**SUNG LORD'S PRAYER: VU#959**

(Children leave for Discovery Kids)

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Psalm 1, John 15:9-17 read by Dan Donaldson

**SERMON:**

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & ANTHEM:** "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another"

**SUNG RESPONSE: MV# 150 "Loving God" v. 3**

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer. Reaching out, joining hands as we share, we seek your guidance through friendship and care. Loving God, be our prayer.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER & BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS**



## **HYMN: MV# 1 "Let Us Build a House"**

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

**Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **Refrain:**

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us. **Refrain:**

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: **Refrain:**

5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **Refrain:**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** read by Carol MacDonald, from the United Church of Canada Worship service, "Kin-to-one-another"

## **CLOSING HYMN: VU# 556 "Would You Bless our Homes and Families"**

1. Would you bless our homes and families, source of life who calls us here; in our world of stress and tension teach us love that conquers fear.

**Refrain: Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays; teach us when we face our troubles, love's expressed in many ways.**

2. When our way is undemanding, let us use the time that's ours to delight in simple pleasures, sharing joys in gentle hours. **Refrain**

3. From the homes in which we're nurtured, with the love that shapes us there, teach us, God, to claim as family everyone whose life we share. **Refrain**

4. Let us reach beyond the boundaries of our daily thought and care till the family you have chosen spills its love out everywhere. **Refrain**

## **COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

### **SUNG BENEDICTION: MV#214 "May God's Sheltering Wings"**

May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you, and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

May God's sheltering wings, his gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, his cradling arms sustain you, and hold you in his love, and hold you in his love.



## **POSTLUDE**