

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**

**September 15, 2024**

**Guest Preacher: Shaun McIntosh**

**Music Director: Victoria Warwick**

**Reader: Mary Jane Deacon**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO THE GATHERED & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**OPENING HYMN MEDLEY: MV#82 "Bathe My In Your Light"**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

**VU#652 "Be Still My Soul"**

1. Be still, my soul, for God is on your side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Trust in your God, your saviour and your guide, who through all changes faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul, your best, your heavenly friend through stormy ways leads to a peaceful  
end.
2. Be still, my soul, your God will undertake to guide the future surely as the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul, life's tempests still obey the voice that once the waves wild fury stayed.
3. Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever in God's peace;  
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone, love's joys restored, our strivings all shall  
cease.  
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

**OPENING PRAYER:** read by Mary Jane Deacon

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:** As we light this Christ candle may it remind us that  
God is in us and in our world.

**SUNG RESPONSE: MV#21 "Open Our Hearts"**

Open our hearts. Open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God. Open our hearts.

**THEME CONVERSATION: "Like a Rock"**

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

**HYMN: VU#509 "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"**

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Refrain:** Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain:**  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain:**

**SERMON:**

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND SPECIAL MUSIC:** "I Will Lift Up My Eyes" sung by St Paul's Choir

**SUNG RESPONSE: MV#136 "When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace" (verses 1 and 5)**

1. When hands reach out and fingers trace the beauty of a loved one's face,  
we thank you, God, that love relies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
5. Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve you well and offer praise.  
When all are joined as one, we'll be your able, strong community.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER** read by Mary Jane Deacon

**HYMN MV#138 "My Love Colours Outside the Lines"**

1. My love colours outside the lines, exploring paths that few could ever find;  
and takes me into places where I've never been before, and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.
2. My Lord colours outside the lines, turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;  
and takes me into places where I've never been before and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

**Bridge:** We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown, body and soul need a soaking from time to time. And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die and realize there are worlds outside the lines.

3. My soul longs to colour outside the lines, tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before, throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**SUNG BENEDICTION: "Go In Love"**

Go in love; have no fear. God will guide you, God is always near. Go in love; take God's hand.  
God will hear you, God will understand. May God's light forever shine upon you; may God's peace be  
always in your heart. Go in love; face each day. God will lead you, God will show the way.  
Go in love and live in faith. Amen.

**POSTLUDE:**