

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

September 1, 2024

Guest Preacher: Pat File

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Reader: Cathy Metzgar

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

OPENING HYMN MEDLEY: VU#395 "Come In, Come in and Sit Down"

Refrain: Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.

We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.

1. You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain,
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part of the family.

Refrain:

2. God is with us in this place, like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace, for we are a part of the family.

Refrain:

3. There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine; we are the branches, Christ is
the vine.

This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine, but we are a part of the family.

Refrain:

4. There's rest for the weary and health for us all; there's a yoke that is easy, and a
burden that's small.

So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family.

Refrain:

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:

OPENING PRAYER:

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: VU#588 v. 1 "Many Are the Lightbeams"

Many are the lightbeams from the one light. Our one light is Jesus.
Many are the lightbeams from the one light; we are one in Christ.

THEME CONVERSATION:

SCRIPTURE READING:

VU#227 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

SERMON:

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND SPECIAL MUSIC: Video – "Irish Blessing (Be Thou My Vision)"

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

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: : "May I Share God's Peace With You?" (Words & Music: Steve Pitkanen)

May I share God's peace with you? That His love may see us through all the joys and trials of a life in his care.

May I share what I know to be true? May I share God's peace with you?

POSTLUDE: