

**Sunday December 1, 2019**

**11:00am**

**Welcome to St. Paul's United Church**

*and to our services today - we are happy that you have come!*



**Sunday Morning Nursery**

Toys and other nursery items are available during the service

**Sunday School children** start with their parents and leave partway through the Annex or combined services for Sunday School

**Washrooms** are located off the atrium

**Pew Cushions** are available to the left of the front platform in the sanctuary

**Two accessible entrances to St Paul's.** One is on Main Street via the atrium, with the elevator located just inside the entrance. Best parking to use for this entrance is the town lot west of the church, with two handicapped parking spots. The second accessible entrance is via the ramp off our parking lot, with two handicapped parking spots in the parking lot.

We invite you to pick up informational brochures in the atrium. Please introduce yourself to one of the hosts; we would be most happy to help you. **Visitors and guests are encouraged to sign the Guest Book located in the atrium.** We hope you will come to fellowship time following our services for conversation and refreshments!

**Participating this morning**

**Worship Leadership:** Rev. Dale Skinner

**Music Director:** Judy Hunter **Piano:** Dawn Brodie

**Greeting:** Marlene Grimwood, Wally Whitnell & Peter Anderson

**Offering:** Marlene Grimwood, Wally Whitnell, Peter Anderson & Wendy Hodgkins

**Sound Team:** Elijah Calara **Scripture Reader:** Valrie Ewan

**Count Team:** Sue Paul, Sherry Cameron & Marg Cameron

**Fellowship Time:** Cassie Smith, Jean Morby & Alice Fetter

**Bakers Dozen:** Marilyn Pickett & Judy Hiscott

**Large print bulletins available -  
please ask one of our ushers**

A warm welcome is extended to all this morning. Your presence both enriches us and this time of worship together. In the midst of the busy-ness of life, we have been gifted with this time and place to reconnect with God and with one another. We seek to discern a life beyond life and behold the larger reality Jesus revealed in his own life, death and resurrection. Our aim is spiritual growth, a deeper faith and a loving community.

The land upon which we live and work is a gift from the Creator. We acknowledge the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the lands of the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement.

\*Please stand if able

Congregational responses in **bold**

**We Gather As God's People**

**Carol Sing** *As we gather for worship through December, we will be singing a few carols before we begin. Requests are welcome.*

**Call To Worship - Lighting The Advent Candle of Hope**

**One:** Come into this place. Come into this season of Advent.  
Come and make room to receive the gift of Christmas.  
Come and see how God prepares a place for Hope to be born anew.

**All: Let every heart prepare a place for hope.**

**One:** God comes to us as a child. A God who waits to be born anew.  
A child born in the midst of impossible circumstances.  
A child in whom God invested a great deal of hope.  
A child who would grow, and live, and die, and live again  
to show us the hope God has in us and the hope God has for us.

**All: Let every heart prepare a place for hope.**

**One:** According to the prophet Jeremiah: "The Lord said, 'I made a wonderful promise to Israel and Judah, and the days are coming when I will keep it. I promised that the time will come when I will appoint a king from the family of David, a king who will be honest and rule with justice. In those days, Judah will be safe; Jerusalem will have peace and will be named 'The LORD Gives Justice.'" (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

**All: Let every heart prepare a place for hope.**

**One:** When there is no hope...there is no promise. When there is no hope... justice is far away. When there is no hope...the future is dim.  
As days grow shorter and darkness lengthens, we light the first candle.  
May this flame be a glimmer of hope for the people.

(First candle is lit).

One: Every week in Advent, we will light another candle.  
Each candle that we light will remind us that the Light of the World will soon come to us as one of us—as “Emmanuel,” which means “God with us.” The Kingdom of God is drawing near.  
May we prepare our hearts for the day of the Lord.

**All: Let every heart prepare a place for hope.**

**\*VU 62** “Once In Royal David’s City”

## Welcome

## The Life and Work of Our Community

## Opening Prayer

Everlasting and Loving God, gathered in this place today, we acknowledge that you are at work in our lives and in this world. In this time and space we ask for the grace to take a break from our busy thoughts and a busy world.  
We have come in search of Jesus and his way.  
We have come gather at his table and be fed by his Spirit.  
We pray that we might find our sense of hope restored.  
We know that we have done things and have had things done to us that have caused us to lose hope in ourselves and hope in others.  
With these things in mind, we ask for your mercy and grace.  
As we gather, as we worship and as we are fed, may we see the hope you have in us.  
The hope that reminds us that we need each other.  
This is the hope you give us in Christ, the one in whose name we pray.  
Amen.

## We Listen For God’s Word

**Choir Anthem** When Will We See the Little One?

## Prayer of Illumination

**Scripture:** Revelation 21:1-6

Valrie Ewan

**Word For Today:** “For Goodness’ Sake”

## We Respond In Faith

### Invitation to the Offering

*We of St. Paul’s are committed to the work of the Church. Weekly offerings, pre-authorized remittance (PAR), sharing of our time and talents and reaching out to friend and stranger are but some of the ways that we give.  
“God loves it when the giver delights in the giving.” 2 Corinthians 9:7*

### Presentation Of Our Offerings

#### \*Offertory Response

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet, what I can I give him – give my heart.

## Sacrament of Communion ( see blue insert)

\*VU 44 “It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”

#### \*Words of Blessing

#### \*Choral Response

#### \*Exchange of the Peace

*Before we depart, we are invited to exchange “the Peace of Christ” with the ones around us.*

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

