

Sunday March 8, 2020

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: Don Cassano **Piano:** Dawn Brodie

Greeting: Caroline Brodie, Marlene Grimwood & Jo McDuffe

Offering: Jo McDuffe, Peter Anderson, Marlene Grimwood & Wendy Hodgkins

Sound Team: Hélène Ellison **Scripture Reader:** Wayne Heath

Count Team: Wayne Heath, Graham & Anne Troake

Fellowship Time: Vicki Thomson & Janice Linke

Bakers Dozen: Shelley Woodcock & Wendy Hodgkins

**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

Prelude

***VU 296** "This Is God's Wondrous World"

Welcome

The Life and Work of Our Community

***VU 374** "Come And Find The Quiet Centre"

Call To Worship *(based on Ps.121)*

This new day is fresh with possibility to encounter the Living God.

With bright eyes, let us search.

This new day is fresh with possibility to know the Living God.

With engaged minds, let us ponder.

This new day is fresh with possibility to serve the Living God.

With willing hands, let us offer.

This new day is fresh with possibility to praise the Living God.

With grateful hearts, let us worship.

Lighting of the Christ Candle – Second Sunday of Lent

Jesus has called us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but all too often we let the social boundaries and borders of the world divide us.

We build up walls rather than bridges; we keep people out who need to be invited in. We have a responsibility to care for one another as Christ cares for us, and yet we often fail to do it.

We light this candle as a symbol our faith in Jesus Christ, a light to our path, to teach us again how to love, how to break down walls and to build bridges -illuminating the way of Life.

Gathering Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Young people (ages K-8) are now welcome to exit the Sanctuary to attend church school on the lower level.)

We Listen For God's Word

Choir Anthem

Scripture Reading John 3:1-17

Wayne Heath

Word For Today "The Freedom To Change"

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 VU 218 verse 1

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
we lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Minute For Mission

Pastoral Prayers

Statement of Faith "A New Creed"

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made
flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

We Go In God's Name

*VU 586 "We Shall Go Out With Hope Of Resurrection"

*Words of Sending Forth

Just as God's Word was sent into the world
to heal and redeem, to inspire and free,
so God sends us into the world this day
to be light and love, healing and hope.

We say to each other, "Go now to be light for the world!"
And may the grace and peace of Christ go with us.

*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.**

