

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, MIDLAND
SUNDAY, March 3, 2013
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT/HOLY COMMUNION
*When you see this sign, please stand as you are able.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN # VU244 Sing Your Praise to God Eternal*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

One: The blessing of the desert wilderness,

All: The blessing of temptation,

One: The blessing of the Spirit's presence,

All: The blessing of quiet reflection,

One: The blessing of purposeful action,

All: The blessing of Christ in bread and wine,

One: the blessing of God, who is in all these things and in each one of us,

All: be our blessing as we worship in this place.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we light this Christ candle, may it remind us that Christ
is in us and in Our world.

INTROIT: **Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's Grace.
I can feel the brush of angel's wings
I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN VU #471 Eat this Bread and Never Hunger*

THEME CONVERSATION:

LORD'S PRAYER

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS VU# 932(sung)

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory,
Hosanna in the Highest!**

Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (SUNG TWICE) VU#933

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come, come again.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (UNISON)

The gifts of bread and wine have been received, even to the ones who betrayed and denied, even to the ones who fled into the night, even to us. Holy One, in grace and peace, in bread and fruit of the vine, in faith that embraces the mystery of your presence, we give you thanks.

(Children may go up to Sunday school now)

We Hear the Wisdom of the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (SAID BY ALL)

May we hear these ancient scriptures with trusting faith and gentle hope, with creative enthusiasm and honest doubt, rooted in the teachings of Jesus and grounded in your love. May we hear your call in scripture today. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING John 14: 15-31

ANTHEM

SERMON

We Respond to God's Word

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

**HYMN I Have Called You by Your Name (More Voices)*

I have called you by your name, you are mine;

I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.

I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.

You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;

read it written in my people, help them grow.

Pour the water in my name; speak the word your soul can claim;

offer Jesus' body, given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;

feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.

Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,

hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;

I have given you my Spirit as a sign.

With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;

go and tell my precious people they are mine.

(Please remain seated for this hymn)

**DOXOLOGY: #VU 541*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures high and low; give thanks to God in love made known: Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Go Forth to Serve

*HYMN VU# 368 Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

*COMMISSIONING/BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION

Stay with us through the night.

Stay with us through the pain.

**Stay with us, blessed stranger,
till the morning breaks again.**

Stay with us through the night.

Stay with us through the grief.

**Stay with us, blessed stranger,
till the morning brings relief.**

(Walter Farquharson, Ron Klusmeier – Voices United #182)

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(Please allow the choir to recess before leaving the Sanctuary)

Postlude

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A special welcome to all new friends as we gather to celebrate God's presence in our lives. If you are a guest, visitor or newcomer, please make yourself known to us. If you have any questions, our greeters would be delighted to help you. Please put your name, mailing address and email address in our guest book so we may have a record of your visit. **Following our service today please join us for coffee in the Great Hall compliments of our Trustees.**

Ministers: All the People of God with the Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Lay Reader: Lorelei Blane-Smith

Communion Preparers Sharon Foster & Louise Rachey

Director of Music: Paul Sloan

Pre-Service Music Rick Taylor

Administrator Judy McConnell

Custodian Mary Ellen Petticrew

Captain of the Greeters for March – *Sheila Thompson*

Diane & Graham Patchell will be delivering
the DVD's for the month of February.

Sheila Thompson will be in the Nursery today.

Captain of the Counters for February – *Ria Gerritsen*

Phone 526-6077 Fax 526-4020

Email: stpaulsunited@rogers.com, Website: stpaulsmidland.org

Office hours Monday thru Friday 9-12, 1-4pm

CHURCH MEETINGS THIS WEEK MARCH 4TH THRU MARCH 8TH

Monday	M&P	7:00pm	Parlour
Tuesday	UCW Executive	10:00am	Parlour
Tuesday	Fellowship Club	7:00pm	Great Hall
Wednesday	Bible Study	11:30am	Parlour
Thursday	Choir	7:00pm	Chapel

Don't forget to let the church know if you're meeting day or time changes!

New Members – March 10th is Welcoming Sunday if you would like to become a member of the church, please call the church office at 705-526-6077.

Out of the Cold – our Lenten project: Please find envelopes for your donations on the back window of the sanctuary. Your cheque should be made out to “St. Paul’s United Church” our Trust Funds will match the total raised on this project. Please have your envelopes in by Easter Sunday March 31st. Thank You!

Towards the Cross: Huronia District Ministerial welcomes everyone to an Interdenominational service on Sunday March 3rd at 7pm at the Midland Alliance Church, 829 Yonge St. Midland. A Lenten service of Music and Worship featuring contributions from area churches as well as community groups. Refreshments will be served after the service.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Talent Auction May 11th 2013: Please find slips in our bulletin that can be used to fill out the information regarding any handmade items that you might like to donate. Just to give you some ideas, suggestions of past donations from our talented parishioners are on the back. Please submit your slips to the church office or put on the collection plate by April 12th 2013 and items should be in by April 25th.

Easter Newsletter: Your reports and contributions to our Easter newsletter are due into the church office no later than March 11th. We welcome your stories, and poems that can be added to our newsletter. **Newsletters:** Please consider receiving your newsletter by email....no paper... let Judy in the church office know at 526-6077 or email the church office at stpaulsmidland@rogers.com!

Name Badges: We now have the Cord Style name badges, if you would like to change yours from a pin style to a cord style, please contact the church office at 705-526-6077.

DVD library of past services is located on the bookshelves in the middle row of the church towards the north side of the sanctuary. If you are unsure, please ask a greeter or Sheila Thompson. The DVD’s are copies of past services and are available for anyone who may have missed a service, or enjoyed one so much that they’d like to watch it again, or share it. DVD’s can be picked up and returned at your convenience.

Lay Visitor cards are on the back window sill for any of our visitors who need more cards. Thank you to all our visitors for the very important work they do for the church!

IN CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY YOU MAY CALL KAREN AT HOME AT 705-355-0224 OTHERWISE PLEASE CALL CHURCH AT 705-526-6077. KAREN NOW HAS HER OWN EMAIL ADDRESS: MINSPUCLAND@GMAIL.COM. YOU ARE INVITED TO EMAIL KAREN DIRECTLY AT THIS EMAIL ADDRESS.

The Georgian Bay General Hospital Volunteer association is looking for volunteers. Positions are available in the Emergency Department, at the information desk and in the new Patients-in-Motion programs as well as other hospital locations. Experience the joy of giving back to the community in a meaningful way by joining the GBGH volunteer association. Pick up an application form at the hospital or go online on the GBGH website and download one today. **There are also applications in the church office.**

Fellowship Club will meet on Tuesday March 5th at 7pm in the Great Hall. Speaker is Stephen Kramp, with an update on Midland and its direction for the future. All are welcome!!



NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 10TH OUR
CLOCKS WILL GO AHEAD 1 HOUR –
DON'T BE LATE FOR CHURCH

Copies of the minutes from Annual General Meeting are on the back window of the sanctuary for anyone who does not have email. Copies will be emailed to everyone else.

Board Meeting – the next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 26th in the Parlour at 7pm. Committee reports and motions should be into the church office no later than Tuesday March 19th. Thank You!

Help Wanted - Each Sunday our worship service is recorded on DVDs and delivered to the homes of St. Paul's people who are unable to attend. We have a team of volunteers who do this on a monthly rotation, two months per year. At this time we need someone to help us out with this mission. If you would consider contributing to your church in this way please contact Sheila 705-526-2186 or Judy in the church office 705-526-6077.

The Observer: would you like to receive this award winning magazine monthly. If you are presently getting the Observer and wish to continue doing so, you need do nothing. If you are not receiving it and would like please contact the church office. Donations are always welcome to the church to offset the cost of the subscriptions. The cost for one year is \$20.00, but donations of any size are accepted. Please indicate on your envelope that the monies are for the Observer. We reach out to our community by providing copies to nursing homes, and other locations throughout the Midland area. For more information please call the church office at 705-526-6077. **New subscriptions start in April.**