



SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH,
Minister: The Reverend Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Music Director: Victoria Warwick
Readers: Lynne Angus, Dan Donaldson
Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Bruce Wilcox

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

HYMN: "Covid-19 – You are Apart from the Family" sung by Victoria Warwick. (New COVID words written by Karen Ptolemy-Stam and Victoria Warwick)

**Stay home and isolate now,
you cannot visit the family.
We are socially distancing
while we are apart from the family.**

1. You know the reason you can't come,
COVID-19 deters our fun,
so share our new pandemonium
while we are apart from the family.

**Stay home and isolate now,
you cannot visit the family.
We are socially distancing
while we are apart from the family.**

2. The cameras are cued up and live streaming on;
virtual message and virtual song.
This is our new normal practicum
while we are apart from the family.

**Stay home and isolate now,
you cannot visit the family.
We are socially distancing
while we are apart from the family.**

3. COVID-19 can't take away
the love for our families we have each day.
And so we gather virtually
for we are still a faith family.

OPENING PRAYER: Read by Dan Donaldson (Written by Karen)

As we worship today, O God, may your Spirit guide us. May we be open to the gifts of the Spirit that you have given us, both personally and in our faith communities. Touch our hearts so that we may know you and how your Spirit lives and dwells in us. Help us to share the gifts that you give us with others so that together we can be the heart and hands of love and justice in the world. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:



One: As we light this Christ candle may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

Sung response: "God of the Bible" verse 2

God in our struggles, God in our hunger, suffering with us, taking our part, still you empower us, mothering Spirit, feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 read by Lynne Angus
John 2:1-11 read by Dan Donaldson

HYMN: MV#138 "My Love Colours Outside the Lines" sung by Rebecca Amadei

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 the world 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.



Refrain: 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.

SERMON:

REMINDER OF OUR OFFERING

HYMN: "One Voice" sung by Amabile Choirs of London, ON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER: read by Lynne Angus
(written by Ruth Duck, Flames of the Spirit, Pilgrim Press, 1985; pg. 70)

God of this new day, we praise you with joy! Take our weary lives and refresh us with your spirit. Our lives so often seem broken and filled with despair. Heal us this day, God, and make us new.

We greet you, welcoming God, with our many moods. Some of us could not wait to watch the service; some of us not so eager. Some of us know exactly why we've come; others are not sure. Still, something calls each of us and we come to seek and to worship.

We remember before you all that has made life good in recent days - contact with our families and friends, albeit by phone, zoom or text; the love and laughter we share with others; the satisfaction of work well done, the sweetness of a good night's sleep. For any and all things which make us glad to be alive, we rejoice!

And we remember, also, all people who do not share our rejoicing or who do so even while in peril - the lonely, the sick, those living with COVID, those imprisoned or at war. For our sisters and brothers facing any distress, we pray that your strength and peace will find them and sustain them.

And though it is hard for us, we pray for those we dislike and mistrust, hoping that they, too, pray for us. Grant that our prayers may open our eyes and hearts to one another and so make "love" and "peace" more than just slogans in the church and world. Because you love us, because we love you, may this be so.... Amen

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE