



St. Paul's United Church
Sunday, March 13, 2022 – Lent

Welcome Back to In-Person Worship

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Music Director: Victoria Warwick
Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Bruce Wilcox
Readers: Dan Donaldson, Victoria Tovell,
Music: Rebecca Amadei, Shayla Brown, Hilary Warwick,
Singers from St. John's Anglican Church, Ottawa

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS / CALL TO THE GATHERED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

OPENING HYMN: "I Have Called You by Your Name" sung by Rebecca Amadei

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.



OPENING PRAYER read by Dan Donaldson, written by Karen Ptolemy-Stam

We gather here today O God, both in-person and on-line to walk the Lenten journey together. You called Abraham, Sarah and Hagar in the midst of difficult times in their lives, and you call us too. Jesus had the courage to face the oppression of his day, so may we too have the courage to face the oppression that we see in our world today. Be with us in our time of worship and in the living of our faith each day. Amen

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

SUNG RESPONSE: "Be Still and Know That I am God" sung by Hilary Warwick

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Genesis 15:1-6; Luke 13:31-35 read by Victoria Tovell

SERMON:

REMINDER ABOUT GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

ST. PAUL'S REFUGEE WORK: OUR LENTEN PROJECT: Zena Pendlebury

HYMN: "To Abraham and Sarah" sung by musicians from St John's Anglican Church, Ottawa.

1. To Abraham and Sarah, the call of God was clear:
"Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair.
You need not fear the journey for I have pledged my word:
that you shall be my people and I will be our God."
2. From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race,
dependent for their journey on God's abundant grace;
and in their heart was written by God this saving word:
"that you shall be my people and I will be your God."
3. We of this generation on whom God's hand is laid,
can journey to the future secure and unafraid,
rejoicing in God's goodness and trusting in this word:
"that you shall be my people and I will be your God."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER:

read by Dan Donaldson, written by Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Holy One, we are grateful that we can now worship in-person and continue on-line as we slowly move forward and together work to rebuild our faith community. Guide us in all we do. Grateful hearts remember that you are with us in many ways. We thank you for the safety protocols that have been instrumental in keeping many of us safe. We are thankful for all front-line workers in this pandemic. We are thankful for family and friends who reached out to one another offering love, laughter, and encouragement. We are thankful that we are part of the refugee work that seeks to give people who are desperate hope and new beginnings.

May we journey forward together to work with you for the care and dignity of all in our world. Give us courage to live our values even in the face of evil. We pray for the Ukrainian people as they continue to resist the onslaught of weapons and bombs in their country. We pray for the response of the world as governments seek to work for peace. We pray that there will be no further escalation of war. We also pray for the Russian protesters who risk beatings and years in prison for protesting this invasion. We pray for countries that are also suffering and know oppression and violence. We pray for people in their homes, around the world and here in Canada who know violence and abuse. We lift our worries, our cares and our thanks and gratitude to you. Amen (followed by the Lord's Prayer)

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: MV#214 "May God's Sheltering Wings" sung by Shayla Brown

"May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

May God's sheltering wings, his gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, his cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in his love, and hold you in his love."

POSTLUDE