

St. Paul's United Church Sunday, March 26, 2023 – Lent 5 Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Readers: Fran Hill, Shaun McIntosh, Bruce Wilcox **Music:** St. Paul's Choir **Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

WELCOME/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

OPENING HYMN: VU# "Come and Find the Quiet Centre"

- Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
- 2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
- 3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

OPENING PRAYER: Read by Shaun McIntosh, written by Joanna MacQuarrie, St. Andrew's U.C. Peterborough L/E Gathering 2013

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #595, We Are Pilgrims, vs. 1, 3

We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road; We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear

THEME CONVERSATION (Children Leave for Discovery Kids)

SCRIPTURE READING: John 11:1-45 read by Fran Hill

Kesuri

SERMON:

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "A Kyrie for Our Time"

Give what you can, take what you need. For the body of Christ is enough to feed. The hungry for Spirit and the thirsty for love. Give thanks when you can to our God up above.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER: Read by Shaun McIntosh (followed by Lord's Prayer) written by Karen Boivin, Carp/Dunrobin P.C./L/E 2016 Gathering

CLOSING HYMN: VU#586 "We Shall Go Out in Hope of Resurrection"

- We shall go out with hope of resurrection; we shall go out, from strength to strength go on; we shall go out and tell our stories boldly; tales of a love that will not let us go. We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted; we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed; we'll weave a cloth of all the world united within the vision of new life in Christ.
- We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken; we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed; we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer, expressive love alive in every heart. We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping, raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief, we'll leap and dance the resurrection story, including all in circles of our love.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: "May the Christ Who Walks with Wounded Feet"

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road. May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve. May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love; when you leave this place may you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet, and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

POSTLUDE