



**St. Paul's United Church**

**Midland, ON**

**Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023**

**Holy Humour Sunday**

**Minister:** The Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

**Music Director:** Victoria Warwick

**Readers:** Gabriela Dell, Ian Sutherland

**Soloist:** Shayla Brown, St. Paul's Choir,

Hymn from Grace United Church, Barrie

**Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**INTRODUCTION TO HOLY HUMOUR SUNDAY**

**CALL TO THE GATHERED**

**OPENING PRAYER** Read by Ian Sutherland posted on the website of the Two Rivers Pastoral Charge, United Church of Canada

**HYMN: "Morning Has Broken"** Used with permission from Grace United Church, Barrie, On.

Morning has broken like the first morning.  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the word.

This day God gives me strength from high heaven,  
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,  
flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness,  
deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.



**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND SUNG RESPONSE**

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

Sung Response: VU#82 "A Light is Gleaming" Refrain and Verse 1

**Refrain: A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light. Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is  
burning bright, living in the light.**

When light comes pouring into the darkest place, it hurts our eyes to see the glow. Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears, our memories and tears.

**Refrain**

**THEME CONVERSATION**

**HOLY HUMOUR MOMENT:** Animal Videos (**Children Leave for Discovery Kids**)



**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Genesis 18:1-15; Ecclesiastes 3:4; Luke 6:21; Proverbs 17:22\_read by Gabriela Dell

## **SERMON:**

**HYMN:** Give to Us Laughter VU#624 Vs. 1 Words: Walter Farquharson, 1974 Music: Ron Klusmeier

**Give to us laughter, O Source of our life.  
Laughter can banish so much of our strife.  
Laughter and love give us wholeness and health.  
Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth.**

**HOLY HUMOUR MOMENT:** "How Many Does It Take to Change a Lightbulb?"

**HYMN:** Give to Us Laughter VU#624 Vs. 2

**Give to us laughter as sign of deep joy;  
Let us in laughing find Christian employ,  
Joining with stars and with bright northern lights,  
Laughing and praising and sharing delights**

**HOLY HUMOUR MOMENT:** Cartoons

**HYMN:** Give to Us Laughter VU#624 Vs. 3

**Why do we worry that we will lose face?  
Why act like king for the whole human race?  
Often in family, and often with friend,  
Laughing at pride causes anguish to end.**

**HOLY HUMOUR MOMENT:** Animal Videos – Part Two

**HYMN:** Give to Us Laughter VU#624 Vs. 4

**Even in sorrow and hours of grief,  
Laughter with tears brings most healing relief.  
God give us laughter and God give us peace.  
Joys of your presence among us increase.**

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** "O Happy Day" Shayla Brown, soloist

**SUNG RESPONSE:** MV #182

**Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,  
Joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of love.  
Grateful for the birth of Jesus, Thankful for Emmanuel.  
Jesus born in Bethlehem and in our hearts as well.**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER** Read by Ian Sutherland posted by Sue on the [RevGalBlogPals](#) blog.

**SUNG BENEDICTION:** VU# 884 "We Shall Go Out with Joy"

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands!  
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the field will clap their hands while you go out with joy.

**COMMISSIONING /BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**