



**Sunday, April 30, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**St. Paul's United Church**

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam  
Music Director: Victoria Warwick  
Readers: Lynne Angus, Judy McConnell  
Singers: St. Paul's Choir, Ebenezer UC Choir  
Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME AND CALL TO THE GATHERED**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**HYMN: VU# 227 "For the Fruit of All Creation"**

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Read by Lynne Angus

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

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



**SUNG RESPONSE: "Halle Halle Hallelujah" 2x**  
Halle Halle Hallelujah! Halle Halle Hallelujah!  
Halle Halle Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

**THEME CONVERSATION**

(Following the theme conversation the children will leave for Discovery Kids)

**HYMN: Psalm 23 VU#747 "The Lord's My Shepherd"**

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me, the quiet waters by.
2. My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness, even for his own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;  
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Acts 2:42-47 read by Judy McConnell

**ANTHEM:** "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

**SERMON:**

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**SUNG RESPONSE: "Grateful"**

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 Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,  
joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you!

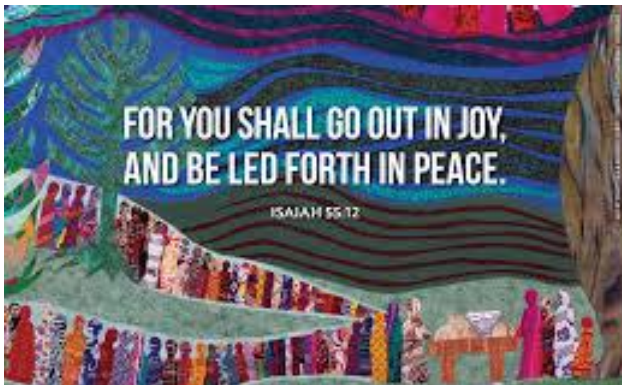
**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER:** Read by Lynne Angus

**CLOSING HYMN: VU# 678 "For the Healing of the Nations" (video)**

1. For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release;  
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.
3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator-God, have written your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;  
that, by our response and service, earth its destiny may find.

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**



**SUNG BENEDICTION: VU# 884 "You Shall Go Out With Joy" 2x**

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.

**POSTLUDE**