

St. Paul's United Church - Sunday, May 7, 2023  
**Red Dress Project**  
**Remembering Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls**



**Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam**  
**Music Director: Victoria Warwick**  
**Readers: Barb Carswell, Sandra Flint**  
**Guest Indigenous Women: Bonnie Sheriff, Lorraine LaCroix**  
**Singers: Tim McNabb, St. Paul's Choir**  
**Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox**



**WELCOME/CALL TO THE GATHERED/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**OPENING HYMN:** MV #79 "Spirit Open My Heart"

**Refrain: Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.**  
**As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart.**

1. God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.  
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

**Refrain**

2. Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.  
In each thought, word and deed, may my living bring you glory.

**Refrain:**

3. May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.  
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

**Refrain:**

**OPENING PRAYER:** Read by Barb Carswell. Used in the [Our Sisters in Spirit Worship service](#).

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE/MEMORIAL CANDLE AND FIRST NATIONS' CANDLES**

**SUNG RESPONSE:**

**Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.**  
**As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMN:** VU #471 "Eat This Bread and Never Hunger"

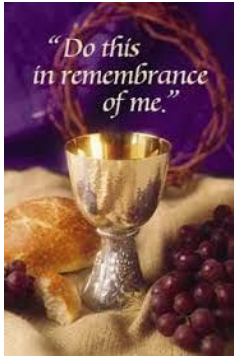
**Refrain:**

**Eat this bread and never hunger,**  
**drink this cup and never thirst;**  
**Christ invites us to the table**  
**where the last become the first.**

1. Asking for a cup of water, Jesus touched forbidden ground;  
and the woman, with a question, told the world what she had found. **Refrain:**
2. Walking down a desert highway, Jesus healed a man born blind; soon the man became a witness to  
the truth we seek and find. **Refrain:**
3. Weeping for his friend at graveside, Jesus felt the pain of death; yet he knew God's power to  
waken: living water, living breath. **Refrain:**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS** VU #932(sung)  
**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might,**  
**heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosanna in the Highest!**  
**Blessed is the one who comes in your name,**  
**Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**



**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION** 2x MV#207  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**  
**Holy One, as we have gathered for communion, may we remember that we are your followers called to follow you. May the bread and the wine remind us that you are the bread of life and that you also know the cup of suffering. We pray for our broken world and ask your forgiveness for the ways in which we have contributed to the pain and struggles of others. May we forgive others and ourselves, as you forgive. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Micah 6:8; Revelations 21:1-6, John 13:34,35 read by Sandra Flint

**SERMON: L.I.F.E. (Living in Faith Everyday Sermon) with Lorraine LaCroix and Bonnie Sherriff**

**PRESENTATION OUR OF OFFERING**

**ANTHEM:** "Hands United in Peace"

**SUNG RESPONSE "Grateful" and OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER:** Read by Barb Carswell

**CLOSING HYMN:** VU #598 Video "When Pain of the World Surrounds Us"

When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,  
when searching just confounds us with false hopes ev 'rywhere  
when lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,  
we are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow through us.

We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,  
confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed.  
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.  
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow through us.

The church is a holy vessel the living waters fill  
to nourish all the people, God's purpose to fulfill.  
May we with humble courage be open to God's will.  
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's Spirit flow through us.

We praise you for our journey and your abundant grace,  
your saving word that guided a struggling human race.  
O God, with all creation, your future we embrace.  
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's changes flow through us.

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**RED DRESS PROJECT AT ST. PAUL'S VIDEO:** By Glenn Erwin