



**WELCOME TO OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN. MAY 21, 2023**

**St. Paul's United
Church, Midland, ON**

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Music Director: Victoria Warwick
Readers: Sandra Flint, Gerry Payne
Singers: St. Paul's Choir, Shayla Brown
Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell,
Bruce Wilcox

WELCOME /CALL TO THE GATHERED/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

OPENING HYMN: VU#402 "We Are One"

1. We are one as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,
in the praise on our lips there's a sense that God is near.
We are one as we sing, as we seek, we are found,
and we come needful of God's grace as we meet, together in this place.
2. We are one as we share, as we share brokenness and fear,
in the touch of a hand there's a sense that God is here.
We are one as we care, as we heal, we are healed,
and we share warmth in God's embrace as we pray together in this place.
3. We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive there's a sense that God is light.
We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved,
and we seek justice in God's ways as we move together from this place.

OPENING PRAYER: read by Gerry Payne

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: MV# 48 "Jump for Joy"

And I'll jump for joy, I'm singing Alleluia. Jump for joy for you.
I will jump for joy, I'm singing Alleluia. Jump for you for you.

THEME CONVERSATION

HYMN: VU#377 "Holy Spirit, Hear Us"

1. Holy Spirit, hear us, help us while we sing;
breathe into the music of the praise we bring.
2. Holy Spirit, shine now on the book we read;
light its holy pages with the truth we need.
3. Holy Spirit, prompt us when we bow to pray;
speak within and teach us what we ought to say.

4. Holy Spirit, help us daily by your might,
what is wrong to conquer, and to choose the right.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 17:1-11 read by Sandra Flint

ANTHEM: "Give Me a Grateful Heart" - St. Paul's Choir

SERMON:

SUNG RESPONSE: MV# 182 "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 Gerry Payne

CLOSING HYMN: MV#144 "Like a Healing Stream"

1. Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth... like a healing stream.
2. Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.
3. Like a river strong with a restless current, Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war... like a river strong.
4. Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons, Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: "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: Please wait for the choir to recess before leaving the sanctuary.