

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam **L.I.F.E. Guest:** Kathy Stewart

Music Director: Victoria Warwick **Singers:** St. Paul's Choir

Readers: and Sharon and Don Penrose

Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Catherine Ladouceur, Bruce Wilcox



WELCOME /CALL TO THE GATHERED/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

OPENING HYMN: MV#1 "Let Us Build a House"

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain:

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

Refrain:

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain:

5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard;
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain:

OPENING PRAYER: read by Sharon Penrose



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#82 "Bathe Me in Your Light O God"

Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.

THEME CONVERSATION

HYMN: VU# 575 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

(Children leave for Discovery Kids)

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Luke 4:16-19; Matt. 25:31-36, 40 Acts 4:32-35 read by Don Penrose

SERMON: L.I.F.E. (Living in Faith Everyday) Kathy Stewart St. Paul's Volunteer Co-ordinator

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

ANTHEM: "Hymn of Grateful Praise"

SUNG RESPONSE: MV# 150 (v 3) "Loving God"

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer. Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
we seek your guidance through friendship and care. Loving God, be our prayer.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER read by Sharon Penrose

CLOSING HYMN: MV# 209 "Go Make a Difference"

Refrain:

Go make a difference. We can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world.
Go make a difference. We can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world.

1. We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people see the love of God for you and me.

We are the light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen
Go make a difference in the world.

Refrain:

2. We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need, the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope; we are the voice of peace. Go make a difference in the world.

Refrain:

3. So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see. Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go. Go make a difference in the world.

Refrain:

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU#429 "May the Blessing of God be Upon You"

May the blessing of God be upon you. May God's love light all your way.

May the grace of Christ enfold you and peace around you stay.

May the Spirit of God dwell within you. May you live in joy each day.

POSTLUDE: Please wait for the choir to recess before leaving the sanctuary.