

St. Paul's United Church

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Welcoming Sunday & Lent 4

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Readers: Marlis Dupuis, Peggy Wallace

Music: St. Paul's Choir

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



WELCOME/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND/CALL TO THE GATHERED

OPENING HYMN: VU#395 "Come in, Come In and Sit Down"

Refrain: Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.

1. You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part of the family. **Refrain:**
2. God is with us in this place, like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace, for we are a part of the family. **Refrain:**
3. There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine, but we are a part of the family. **Refrain:**
4. There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family. **Refrain:**

OPENING PRAYER: read by Peggy Wallace

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #595, We Are Pilgrims, vs. 1, 3

We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

THEME CONVERSATION: LORD'S PRAYER – SUNG (Children leave for Discovery Kids)

HYMN: VU#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: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
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. Build of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS

By Affirmation of Faith: Donna MacFarlane

By Transfer of Membership: Pat Dryden from St. James, Stroud, On
Elaine Whitford from Ebenezer United Church
Bill Woodcock from St. Paul's United Church, Milton, ON.
Shelley Woodcock from St. Paul's United Church, Milton, On

Welcoming of Adherents: Michael Kearney, Mike Smith, Eunice Whitehead

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 2:1-10 read by Marlis Dupuis **SERMON:**

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS /OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Be Thou My Vision"

SUNG RESPONSE: "Give What You Can" /**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Give what you can, take what you need. For the body of Christ is enough to feed.
The hungry for Spirit and the thirsty for love. Give thanks when you can to our God up above.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE read by Peggy Wallace

CLOSING HYMN: VU#266 "Amazing Grace"

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now, I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace, my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'tis Grace that brought me safe thus far, and Grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.
6. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now, I see.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: "May the Christ Who Walks with Wounded Feet"

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love;
when you leave this place may you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

POSTLUDE