



St. Paul's United Church

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Welcoming Sunday & Lent 5

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

L.I.F.E.: Carol MacDonald, Cathy

Pelletier, Zena Pendlebury

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Readers: Sandra Flint, Gerry Payne

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#120 "O Jesus I Have Promised"

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.

OPENING PRAYER: read by Gerry Payne

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY RESPONSE: VU #595,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#600 "When I Needed a Neighbour"

1. When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name
won't matter, were you there?
2. I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

3. I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
4. When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
5. Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,
wherever you travel I'll be there.
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 25:31-36 read by Sandra Flint

SERMON: L.I.F.E. (Living in Faith Everyday) Zena Pendlebury on the Guest House, Carol MacDonald and Cathy Pelletier with Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Mission & Service Fund

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Blessed Holy Jesus"

SUNG RESPONSE: "Give What You Can"

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE read by Gerry Payne

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 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