



St. Paul's United Church - Sunday, May 5, 2024

Communion and Red Dress Project

Remembering Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Readers: Lynne Angus, Colin Whiteside

Singers: 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 Lynne Angus. Used in the Our Sisters in Spirit Worship service:



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

SUNG RESPONSE: MV #79 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: VU#471 "Eat This Bread "

**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 1 3:34,35 read by Colin Whiteside

SERMON :

PRESENTATION OUR OF OFFERING /ANTHEM: "United in Peace"

SUNG RESPONSE: MV# 150 "Loving God" v. 3

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 read by Lynne Angus **SUNG LORD'S PRAYER: VU#959**

CLOSING HYMN: VU #598 "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