

Reformation Sunday

We are called to Live Sacred Lives



October 26th, 2025
St. Paul's United Church
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Worship Leader: Rev. Kirsty Hunter

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Tech Team:
Glenn Erwin,
Gabriela and Rick Dell,
Bruce Wilcox,
Marina Comisso

Gathering and Preparation

Prelude

Welcome

Check In: What is your favourite Halloween costume or "dress up costume"?

Gathering Song: Gather In

Gather in create community
where we unite with our diversity.
Gather in we will live out the call
for acceptance and justice as we welcome all.

Acknowledgement of the Land

Ahniin, We acknowledge that the land on which St. Paul's United Church is located is the traditional land of the Wendat and Anishinaabe First Nations.

Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous People from across Turtle Island, including Metis and our neighbours on Christian Island, Beausoleil First Nation. We are grateful to have the opportunity to worship and work on this land. We are all Treaty people. This week, as we continue to think about food and harvest, we hold in our hearts Inuit communities in the North that are currently experiencing the highest rate of hunger and food insecurity in Canada. High food costs, high entry costs for hunting, and limited distribution/transportation options work together to make food hard to afford for many. Hunger and malnutrition especially impacts children and the elderly. We think of those who are working to help people become more self sufficient through teaching and resources so that they can access "country food."

We commit ourselves to walking in a new way together: a path of healing and hope. Chi-Meegwetch

Call to Worship¹

God is our dwelling place from year to year, age to age. And yet, we become complacent, forgetting who we are. God reforms us

and makes prosperous the work of our hands! God's life surges forth through creation,

like grass that renews every morning.

And yet we prefer to be dust,

swept away in the wind of every new idea and new fad. God reforms us

and makes prosperous the work of our hands!

God turns to us, and has compassion on us,

so the great work of our lives manifests Christ's glorious love to the world.

God reforms us

and makes prosperous the work of our hands!

Therefore, filled with God's love, let us worship Creator today in beloved community

Where all of us belong.

Opening Prayer Reader: Marlis Dupuis

Invitation to Confession

¹ Adapted from: God Reforms Us: A Service for Reformation Sunday
united-church.ca/worship-liturgical-season/reformation-sunday

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Living God,
You are the One who is always on the move,
always creating and re-creating,
always doing a new thing.
And yet, we confess, O Lord,
that our lives can become inactive,
routinely paralyzed by doubt and fear.
We remain hardened in destructive patterns;
like covetousness, and self-interest.
We doubt your promises of abundant,
everlasting life
and so we live in dread of our neighbours,
our friends, and our enemies.
Our souls remain still.
We do not love as you love.
Nor do we live as you would have us live,
with courage, generosity or the boldness of the
gospel.
So in the silence of our hearts,
we offer up to you those things we have done
and those we have left undone.**

Assurance of Grace

Lighting of Christ Candle

• **Prayer:** As we light this Christ Candle,
may it be a reminder, that Christ is us and in our world.

• **Sung Response: May I Share**

May I share God's peace with you?
That His love may see us through
all the joys and trials of a life in his care.
May I share what I know to be true?
May I share God's peace with you

Peace of Christ

Theme Conversation: Sacred Places

Song of Praise: VU#262 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Listening

Scripture **Reader:** Colin Whiteside

Sermon: Our Lives are Sacred Ground

Song for Reflection: VU#716 My Life Flows On

Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Offering of Thanksgiving

Offertory Music: Choir

Offertory Response: VU#538 For the Gift of Creation

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People **Reader: Marlis Dupuis Going Forth**

Song for the Journey: VU#420 Go To The World

Extinguishing of the Candles

Blessing

Closing: Amen

Postlude