Praying with Creation



September 14th, 2025 St. Paul's United Church 308 King St, Midland ON, L4R 3M6 705-526-6077 email stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Worship Leader: Rev. Kirsty Hunter

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Tech Team:

Glenn Erwin,
Gabriela and Rick Dell,
Bruce Wilcox,
Marina Comisso,
Fran Hill

Gathering and Preparation

Prelude

Welcome

Check In: What is your favourite "harvest food" (i.e. pie, jam, soup etc.)?

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 we celebrate all of those who have been taking part in Pow Wows this season. In particular: the Chippewas of Rama who gathered in August, the Chippewas of Georgina Island who will be holding theirs in September, and Beausoleil First Nation that hosted their event in July.

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

Call to Worship

In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said,

"Let there be light!"

And the light was! God said,

"This is great!"

In the burning bush, in the column of fire, in the bright of the day, in the sparkle of night —

the fires of creation have pointed us in the direction of God.

With the light in our eyes,

with the warmth on our faces,

with the love in our hearts— let us worship here together in beloved community

Where all of us belong.

Opening Prayer Reader: Juliana Shaw

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**

Song of Praise: VU#276 O God Who Shaped Creation (Tune VU#123)

Listening

Theme Conversation: Praying with Creation

The Story: Genesis 1:1—2:3 Reader: Rev Kirsty

Sermon: Rediscovering Wonder

Song for Reflection: MV#135 Called by Earth and Sky

Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Offering of Thanksgiving

People usually consider walking on water or in thin air a miracle. But I think the real miracle is not to walk either on water or in thin air, but to walk on earth. Every day we are engaged in a miracle which we don't even recognize: a blue sky, white clouds, green leaves, the black, curious eyes of a child -- our own two eyes. All is a miracle. – Nhat Hanh

Offertory Music: St. Paul's United Church Choir

Offertory Response: VU#538 For the Gift of Creation

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People Reader: Larry Brockelbank

Going Forth

Song for the Journey: VU#884 Trees of the Field

Extinguishing of the Candles

Blessing

Closing: Spirit God Be Our Breath vs. 4

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song. Blow through us, bringing strength to move on. Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn ... Spirit God, be our song.

Postlude