

# **New Life - An Abundance of Love -**



**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**St. Paul's United Church**  
**308 King St, Midland ON, L4R 3M6 705-526-6077**  
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**Worship Leader: Rev. Kirsty Hunter**

**Music Director: Victoria Warwick**

**Tech Team:**

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

## **Gathering and Preparation**

**Prelude**

**Processional:** Oh Let Us Breathe

**Welcome**

**Check In:** Tell a wedding story.

## **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 the fourth Ribbon Skirt Day was celebrated across Canada. It began with tears. A little girl wore her Ribbon Skirt to school on formal day and was told it wasn't sufficient. Out of her tears came an apology, and more importantly, an opportunity for children across Canada to proudly wear cultural attire. The little girl has grown into a shy teenager, who is a little overwhelmed by the attention, but grateful for the positive outcome.

Her mother, Lana, says: "With Isabella's story opening up so many different eyes and so many different positive stories coming from this, it really, really makes me happy to see what's happening for my children and the future generations seeing such a positive change".

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

## **Call to Worship**

Come to the waters, beloved—

We will remember the spirit hovering over the waters at creation,

We will remember Jesus immersed in justice and hope, We will remember baptismal waters, where God leaned close to us.

**We will splash in the river of God's joy.**

Come to the waters, beloved—

where God's voice thunders,  
where God whispers kindness.

**We watch as Jesus steps  
into the muddy mess of our lives.**

Come to the waters, beloved—

where the Spirit gifts us  
So we can stand side by side  
with the broken and forgotten.

**We come because we are indeed  
God's beloved children.**

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

**Where all of us belong.**

**Opening Prayer Reader: Terry MacPherson**

## **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: I am Sending You Light**

## **Peace of Christ**

**Stories for All Ages:** Welcome Child of God

**Song of Praise:** VU#297 All Praise to You

## **Listening**

**Scripture:** **John 2:1-11 nrsv** **Reader:** Robert MacKinnon

**Sermon:** Abundant Life

**Song for Reflection:** VU#644 I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry

**Life and Work of the Church** (Announcements)

## **Offering of Thanksgiving**

**Offertory Music:** In the Hands of the Lord (Choir)

**Offertory Response:** MV#191 What Can I Do

## **Celebrations and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People** **Reader: Terry MacPherson**

## **Going Forth**

**Song for the Journey:** MV#216 Wherever You May Go

## **Extinguishing of the Candles**

## **Blessing**

**Closing:** Amen

## **Postlude**