

Gathered as World Community!

Lent 2



March 1st, 2026

St. Paul's United Church

308 King St, Midland ON, L4R 3M6

Tel: 705-526-6077 E-mail: stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Worship Leader: Rev. Kirsty Hunter

Musical Guest: Louise Leck

Tech Team:

Glenn Erwin,
Gabriela and Rick Dell,
Bruce Wilcox,
Fran Hill,
Marina Commisso,
Alexis Danford

Please take your bulletin home for Recycling

Gathering and Preparation

Prelude

Processional God, Prepare Me
God, prepare me to be a sanctuary
pure and holy, tried and true with thanksgiving,
I'll be a living sanctuary for You

Welcome

Check In What is your favourite sign of spring?

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 athletes are travelling to Whitehorse for the Arctic Winter Games. The games consist of 20 sports in four categories: Traditional Sports, Nordic Sports, Indoor Sports, and Ice Sports. The Arctic Winter Games includes eight teams: Alaska, Alberta North, Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland), Nunavik Quebec, Nunavut, NWT, Sapmi, and Yukon. There is an emphasis on participation by Indigenous people but there are athletes from many backgrounds included in the games. Cultural exchange is at the heart of the games.

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

Call to Worship

Blessed and blessing, loving and loved,
God's people, here at St. Paul's United, come to this worship!

We're ready!

From times of work, from times of play,
from times of busy-ness, from times away,
God's people of St. Paul's United, come to this worship!

We're set!

To speak and to receive, to sing and to pray,
God's people of St. Paul's United, come to this worship!

We're here!

We're here to worship God!

Opening Prayer **Reader: Dan Donaldson**

Lighting of Christ Candle

Prayer As we light this Christ Candle, may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

Sung Response Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery v4 VU#121
**Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit, Come inflame our hearts anew,
we may all your joy inherit If we bear the cross with you, if we bear the cross with you.**

Peace of Christ

Stories for All Ages Sharing

Song of Praise VU#579 The Church is Wherever God's People

Listening

Scripture John 13:1-17 NRSV **Reader: Lois Brown**

Sermon Holding One Another in Love

Song for Reflection There is a Balm in Gilead VU#612

Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Offering of Thanksgiving/Hope/Longing
(Ushers will hand out slips of paper and pencils)

Offertory Music VU#460 All Who Hunger

Offertory Response VU#542 We Give You But Your Own
**We give you but your own, whatever the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

Celebrations and Concerns

COMMUNION

May the God of great adventures be with you!

And also with you!

It is God who fills our hearts with hope and peace.

We will offer our hearts to the One who created us in love.

Trust in the promises whose fulfillment we cannot see.

We lift our songs to the One who is always with us.

You went into the shadows of nothingness, bearing your Light of creation,
Keeper of all, so that life might burst forth where there was none:
white sands at the edge of blue green seas, shale formed under the crust of the earth,
warm mornings and frigid nights to mark the seasons.

You blessed your children with creation's gifts so we might prove to be a blessing

to others, but we watched the comings and goings of power, greed, and pain, allowing ourselves to be blown about by them.

Prophets responded to your call to them, daring to bring us those words we did not want to hear, calling us back to a way of life we had abandoned, but we knew that we preferred life in the absence of your presence.

For this reason, you sent Jesus into the world, so that we, along with all creation, might be saved. With those who toss and turn in the night, with those who have responded to your call, we lift our thanksgivings to you:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, Who neither slumbers nor sleeps.
All creation blesses your glorious name.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes to answer our questions.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy One, you are the God of blessings,
and Jesus Christ is your Faithful One.

**The One who could truly boast,
he humbled himself to become like us.
The One who was truly righteous,
he emptied himself to fill us with grace.
The One who had spoken life into existence,
he embraced death on the cross,
bringing us closer to you through your grace and wonder.**

As we continue on the journey to Jerusalem,
as we seek to leave our comfortable lives to follow,
we would talk about that mystery we call faith:

**Christ died, faithful to the end;
Christ was raised, so all creation might be saved;
Christ will come, to bring us to that home he will show us.**

What then are we to say, Keeper of our lives?

It is your Spirit poured out upon us
and upon the gifts of the Table which brings us new life.

**It is the brokenness of the bread which gives us life,
that life poured out for those who have no hope,
for those who wander in the shadows.
It is the grace of the cup
which overflows with your gifts,
so we might go to be a blessing
to all forsaken by the world.**

And when our journey has ended
and we find ourselves in that land
which you have prepared for us,
we will sing our glad songs to you forever,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Sending

Now go with the Spirit, from the comfort of this place,

so we may go to bring hope to the world.

Now carry the Light of Christ with you,

we will go into the shadows with this gift.

Now trust in God who is always with you,

we will follow that life called discipleship.

Song for the Journey

We Are People on a Journey

Extinguishing of the Candles

Blessing

Closing Chorus

May the Christ Who Walks on Wounded Feet

Postlude