

Easter 2 Holy Humour Sunday



April 12th, 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: Amanda Clarke

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

*** Please take your bulletin home for Recycling ***

Gathering and Preparation

Prelude

Processional

Sing Praise and Bless the Lord

Sing praise and bless the Lord,

sing praise and bless the Lord! Peoples! Nations! Alleluia

Welcome

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

A Reading From: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 nrsv

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

You might be in a redneck church if...

- The Call to Worship is, "Y'all come on in!"
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Check In

Share a joke or funny 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.

Two-spirit Anishinaabe comedian, Denise McLeod, says that, "Laughter is medicine. Laughter is healing. One of my favourite things in the entire world is listening to a group of aunties laughing in the kitchen — like that belly, head-back, mouth open laugh is one of the best healing medicines in the entire world."

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

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**The whole creation rejoices;
the birds sing from every tree.**

Alleluia! Christ is in our midst!

**Babies babble with sounds of joy;
words cannot express our overflowing hearts.**

Alleluia! Christ is our light forever!

**Breathing peace on us in these moments;
surrounding us with grace and hope.**

Opening Prayer

Reader: Marlis Dupuis

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Before we can truly laugh,

we must first let go of what weighs us down.

Before joy can rise in us,

grace must clear some space.

So let's be honest— not because God doesn't know,

but because we forget that mercy is already leaning in, smiling,

waiting for us to fess up

and fall into arms wide with forgiveness.

Let us pray together.

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

Gracious and giggling God,

we confess that sometimes we take ourselves too seriously.

We walk through life stiff with worry,

grim with guilt, and frowning with fear.

We forget that you created laughter,

and that joy is a fruit of your Spirit.

Forgive us for putting a lid on your joy,

for muting your music,

and for walking around like the resurrection never happened.

Remind us that Easter is the world's biggest surprise party,

and we're all invited.

Tickle our hearts with your grace,

nudge us with your mercy,

and teach us to live with eyes wide open for holy hilarity.

In the name of the Risen One who laughed in the face of death,

Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Here's the good news:

God doesn't hold a grudge — God holds us.

Christ didn't come to scold us — he came to save us,
to shake us out of our sorrow,

and to set loose joy in our hearts like confetti in the wind.

So laugh, dance, rejoice—

for in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

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

Here in this place, the light of God,

my soul finds repose:

Holy space, the heartbeat of God,

My soul finds a home

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Peace of Christ

Stories for All Ages: A Pie in the Face.

Song of Praise Take Time to Be Funny

Listening

Scripture **Selections** **Reader: Pat File**

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Sermon: I Can't Tell Jokes

Song for Reflection VU#624 Give to Us Laughter

Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Offering of Thanksgiving

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Offertory Music

Choir

Offertory Response

VU#541 Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures high and low.

Give thanks to God in love made known,

Creator, Word, and Spirit One.

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Reader: Marlis Dupuis

Song for the Journey

VU#224 Sing a Happy Hallelujah

Extinguishing the Candles

Sing a Happy Hallelujah

Blessing

Closing

VU#958 Halle Halle Halle

Postlude

The potted plants placed in Remembrance of our Beloved People are beautiful. My 'In Remembrance' list to this point has the following names: - Rev. Kirsty -

Tom Barber in Remembrance of Les, Alice and Ellen Barber

Debbie Just in Remembrance of Susan Webb

Kathy Stewart in Celebration & Thanksgiving

Kirsty Hunter in Celebration & Thanksgiving

Fran Hill in Remembrance of Doug Hill

Louise Leck in Memory of George Leck

Marlis Dupuis in Remembrance of Ruth & Gunter Freund

Zena Pendlebury in Remembrance of Cliff Pendlebury

Gail, Bruce and Linda Wilcox in Memory of Marian Wilcox

and Doug and Lorraine Bumstead

Ivan & Lenore Price in Memory of family