

July 5th

Guest Preacher – Shaun McIntosh

Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land and Commitment to Reconciliation¹

Ahniin, We acknowledge that St. Paul's United Church is located on 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 acknowledgment is an opportunity for us to reflect, engage in a sometimes uncomfortable conversation, and to make room for Indigenous perspectives and inclusion in our lives.

We commit ourselves to walking in a new way together: a path of healing and hope. Chi-Meegwetch².

¹ To read any of the reports released by the TRC please go to <https://nctr.ca/publications-and-reports/reports/>

²Adapted from the Land Acknowledgement written for The Possibility of New Beginnings Worship Service for Indigenous Day of Prayer 2023 — by Debbie Hubbard

Call to Worship

May God's love and acceptance fall upon us today.

May it fill our hearts with joy.

We gather together now to praise the One who Created and is creating.

How can our hearts stop from singing!

They can't and they shouldn't. This time together as a community of song, prayer, sacrament, and the Word will strengthen us for the week ahead.

We are children of the God of kindness - each one of us inside and outside of these walls. May the love of God shine through us so all may experience the loving-kindness of God.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

This is the day that the Lord has given us.

Come, let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

Reader: Terry MacPherson

Creator of Life and Goodness, today we celebrate the gift of welcoming, the gift of community, and the belonging that we find in You. Be with us in our service, and in every moment of our lives that we need rest, strength, courage, love, and joy.

In Jesus' name we pray, 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: VU#82 A Light is Gleaming

Baptism: Skyla Lyn Truax

Peace of Christ

Song of Praise: MV#161 I Have Called You By Your Name

Scripture: Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sermon:

Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Offering of Thanksgiving

Offertory Music:

Offertory Response: VU#538 For the Gift of Creation

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Reader: Terry MacPherson

Generous and loving God, we thank you for the many gifts that you have given us. We thank you for the sunshine and the rain, the mountains and the valleys, the snow and the thunderstorms, the challenges and the gifts. We are grateful to live in your grace.

We remember those who are struggling this day (pause),
those close to our hearts,
those we learn about through the news,
those we pass on the street and do not know,
our neighbours sitting with us this day.

Be with each of them. Help them to know your love and grace.
Help us to recognize your presence among us.

Help us to hear your voice in the busyness of our lives.
Help us to pay attention to your words all week long.
As we make plans, work hard, go on vacation, and enjoy friends and family, help us to remember that we have purpose, your purpose.

Help us to always be building up your church, Christ's body in the world. Help us to continue to support, to foster, and to create a faith community that brings love into the world.

We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer
Our Father/Mother
who art in heaven
hallowed be thy names,
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
now and forever.
Amen**

Song for the Journey: VU#644 I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

Extinguishing of the Candles

Blessing

Closing: Sheltering Wings