

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**  
***Centre for creativity, discovery and growth***



**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 ~ 10:00 a.m.**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

Minister

*Rev Don McLean*

Director of Music

*Brad Mills*

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**St. Paul's United Church, Perth**  
**Centre for Creativity, Discovery and Growth**  
**Sunday, April 19, 2026**



**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

✠ invites us to rise in body or spirit



indicates the printed text or music is by a UCC creator



indicates the printed text or music is by a Canadian creator

**GOD CALLS US TOGETHER**

Lighting the Christ, Affirm and Prayer Candles

One: We light the Christ candle as a sign that Christ's Spirit alights us all:

All: **this day, this moment, and every moment.**

One: We light the Affirm candle to remind us to be a place of belonging and acceptance,

All: **to learn and grow together in love that protects and celebrates and uplifts.**

One: The Prayer candle reminds us to hold one another in prayer:

All: **to raise prayers of thanks and concern for one another, and any in need.**

Gathering Song: "Rise Up, Rise Up" MV 130



**Rise up, rise up, rise up O my soul.**

**Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.**

**Rise up, rise up, rise up O my soul.**

**Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.**

All Our Relations: "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren"

phonetically: AW GWAY NYAH DAY DAY WAY NAY REN

All God's Children (Affirming Statement)

Life of the Community

Piano Prelude: "When Morning Guilds the Skies" Barnby arr. by Kauflin

The Easter Greeting

One: Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!

All: **Christ is Risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

✠Hymn: "When Morning Gilds the Skies" VU 339

- 1 **When morning gilds the skies,  
 my heart awakening cries:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!  
 When evening shadows fall,  
 this rings my curfew call:**

may Jesus Christ be praised!

- 2 To God, the Word on high,  
the hosts of angels cry:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let mortals, too, upraise  
their voice in hymns of praise:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 3 Let all of humankind  
in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 4 Be this, while life is mine,  
my canticle divine:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this th'eternal song,  
through all the ages long:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Gathering Prayer (all):

- One: God of heaven and earth, your splendour is infinite, your power incomparable, your holiness beyond our understanding.
- All: In your wisdom, you shaped the earth in wonder and mystery, and you made all things and called them good.**
- One: You have given us life and blessed us with gifts and talents to share.
- All: And you have called us into community with one another where we come together to reflect your love and grace.**
- One: And so, with our lips, we sing your praises,
- All: and with our lives we offer you our worship, this day and always. Amen.**

Junior Choir: "If You Believe" Mosie Lister

I read about how Paul and Silas were in jail,  
And no one there, nobody there could go their bail.  
But when they prayed, they found that God was on their side;  
That jailhouse door swung open wide.

If you believe, you shall receive;  
There's not a trouble or care the good Lord can't relieve,  
Oh, God is just the same today;  
All you have to do is just trust and pray,  
And believe; you must believe.

When Daniel sat within the hungry lions' den,  
 Nobody thought that there was any hope for him.  
 But all night long the lions never took a bite;  
 God took away their appetite.

If you believe, you shall receive;  
 There's not a trouble or care the good Lord can't relieve,  
 Oh, God is just the same today;  
 All you have to do is just trust and pray,  
 And believe; you must believe.

When David stood before the giant with his sling,  
 Goliath laughed at such a puny little thing.  
 But David knew his faith in God would stand the test,  
 He flung the rock; God did the rest.

If you believe, you shall receive;  
 There's not a trouble or care the good Lord can't relieve,  
 Oh, God is just the same today;  
 All you have to do is just trust and pray,  
 And believe; you must believe.

Children and Youth Time and The Prayer of Jesus (*sung*)



**Creator God who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kindom 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 kindom, the power and the glory  
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Children proceed to the Gathering Room.*

## **We Listen for God's Word**

A Reading from the Epistles: 1 John 1: 1 - 4 (*The Inclusive Bible*) Sharon Purdon

<sup>1</sup> That which WAS from the Beginning ,  
 which we have heard, and seen with our eyes,  
 and have looked at and touched with our hands:  
 the Word, who is Life— this is the subject of our letter.

<sup>2</sup> That life came to be; we saw it and bear witness to it.  
 We proclaim to you the eternal life which was with Abba God

and was manifested to us.

<sup>3</sup> What we have seen and heard we declare to you, so that you may be one with us— as we are one with Abba God and with the Only Begotten, Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> We write this to fulfill our joy.

A Reading from the Epistles: 1 John 2: 1 - 4 (*The Inclusive Bible, alt*)

<sup>3</sup> We can be sure that we know God only by keeping the commandments.

<sup>4</sup> Anyone who says, “I know God,” and does not keep the commandments is a liar and refuses to admit the truth.

<sup>5</sup> But when anyone does keep God’s word, God’s love is completed in that person. This is how you know that you are in God:

<sup>6</sup> if you say you abide in Christ, you owe it to Christ to live as Christ lived.

One: For the wisdom that guides us, the word that inspires us  
and the truth that enlightens us.

**All: We praise you, O God.**

Sermon: “A clear, see-through life.” (*Easter through an ethical lens.*) Rev. McLean

✠Hymn: “How Clear is our Vocation, Lord” VU 504

- 1     **How clear is our vocation, Lord,  
          when once we heed your call:  
to live according to your word,  
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,  
that you are over all  
and will not let us fall.**
- 2     **But if, forgetful, we should find  
          your yoke is hard to bear,  
if worldly pressures fray the mind  
and love itself cannot unwind  
its tangled skein of care:  
our inward life repair.**
- 3     **We mark your saints, how they become  
          in hindrances more sure,  
whose joyful virtues put to shame  
the casual way we wear your name,  
and by our faults obscure  
your power to cleanse and cure.**
- 4     **In what you give us, here, to do,  
          together or alone,**

in old routines and ventures new,  
 may we not cease to look to you,  
 the cross you hung upon -  
 all you endeavoured done.

## **We Respond to God**

### Community Prayers

Choir Anthem: "Alleluia" - *Thompson*

"Alleluia, Amen"

### The Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings

#### Offertory Hymn

*TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH VU # 541*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
 In heaven and on earth below;  
 One God, Three Persons we adore,  
 And sing our praise for evermore.**

#### Prayer of Dedication (*all*)

Loving God, with hearts filled with joy, we offer you gifts of thanks, honour, praise, and love. Sanctify the gifts we offer by envelope, through PAR, online, and in many other ways, and use them to fulfill your gracious purpose and to share the love of Jesus near and far. Amen.

## **God Sends Us to Be the Church in the World**

☩Hymn: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" VU 560

- 1 O Master, let me walk with thee  
 in lowly paths of service free;  
 teach me thy secret, help me bear  
 the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
 with some clear, winning word of love;  
 teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
 and guide them in the homeward way.**
- 3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee,  
 in closer, dearer company,  
 in work that keeps faith sure and strong,  
 in trust that triumphs over wrong,**
- 4 in hope that sends a shining ray  
 far down the future's broadening way,  
 in peace that only thou canst give,  
 with thee, O Master, let me live.**

## ✠ The Blessing

### ✠ Sung Blessing: “When You Go From this Place”

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**When you go from this place be true.  
 May the blessing of life find you.  
 May the winds of the Spirit guide you,  
 'cross the ocean of all your days.  
 May the seeds of your love - your life  
 a-dorn the Way.  
 A-dorn the Way.  
 A-dorn the Way.**

Organ Postlude: “Repton” (How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord) - Parry arr. by Bertalot

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### **April is BeADonor Month and BeADonor Week is 19 to 25 April**

Today, in Ontario, there are about 1,500 people waiting for a life-saving organ transplant and every three days one of them will die because they did not get their transplant in time.

Every donor has the potential to save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of up to 75 others through organ and tissue donation. Organs include heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, kidneys and small bowel. Corneas, skin, bone, cardiovascular tissue (heart valves and veins) and connective tissue (tendons, ligaments) are the most common types of tissue transplanted.

Did you know that even though more than 90% of Ontarians support organ and tissue donation, only 35% are registered. Perth is doing well at 52% but could be better.

- You are 6 times more likely to need an organ transplant than to become an organ donor.
- If you think you're too old to donate, a **100-year-old** American WWII veteran passed away recently, and his liver was transplanted to a grateful recipient. The liver continually regenerates itself so at any given time your liver is effectively only three years old.

As an advocate for the Trillium Gift of Life Network in Perth area for many years, I am driven by our eldest daughter and three adult grandchildren who have Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) and who will, (in Cheri's case soon), or may need organ transplants. I do not want any of our family members to become part of the “every three days” statistic. There is no cure for PKD, a genetic disease causing uncontrolled growth of cysts in the kidney and/or liver eventually leading to kidney/liver failure.

Check the back of your health card and go to [beadonor.ca](http://beadonor.ca) to ensure that you are registered as an Organ and Tissue donor. If not already registered, take a couple of minutes and do it; then have a family discussion. This is critical to ensure all know your wishes, or they may say no.

Tony will be happy to answer any questions about organ donation downstairs after church.

**The ultimate recycling: Recycle yourself!**

Submitted by Tony Nichols