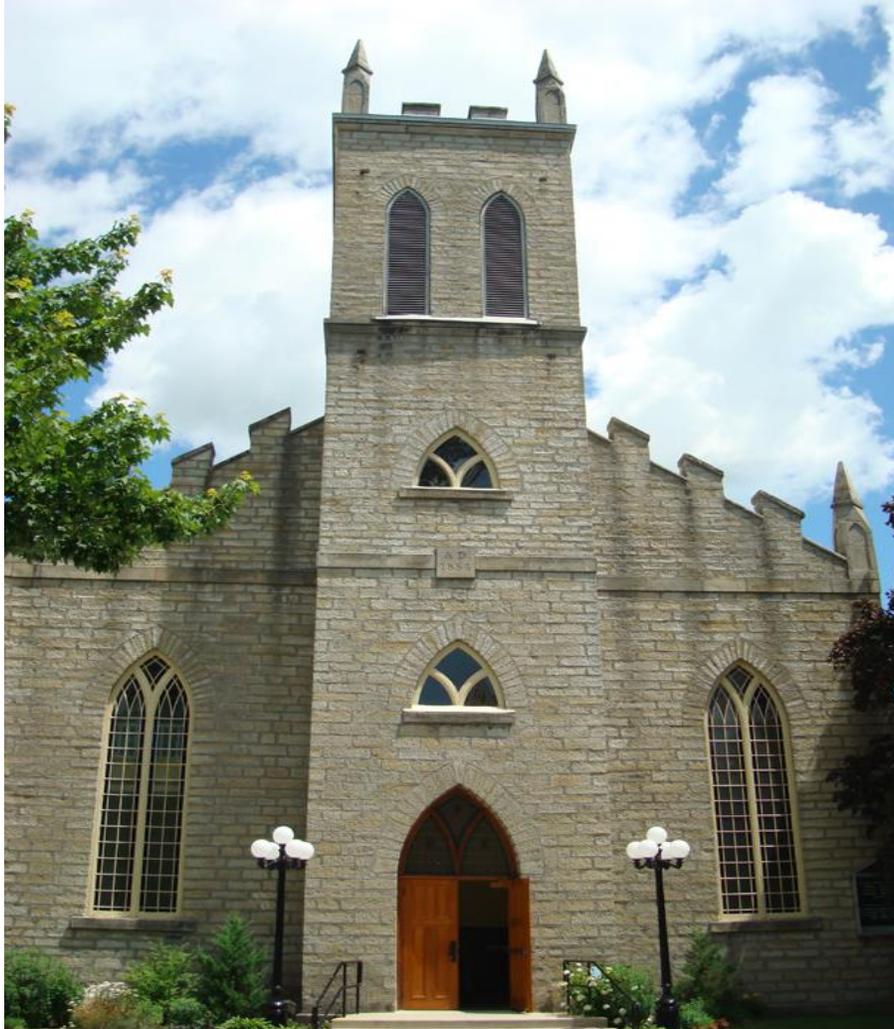


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH

*A spiritual hub for
creativity, discovery and growth*



***Sunday, July 24, 2022. 10:00 AM
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost***

Licensed Lay Worship Leader
Jeannie Taylor-Page

Music Director
Brad Mills

25 Gore Street West, Perth, Ontario K7H 2L9
Tel: (613) 267-2973 Fax: (613) 267-3601
Website: www.stpaulsperth.ca Email: admin@stpaulsperth.ca
Supervising Minister: Rev Shelley Roberts
Voluntary Associate Minister: Rev Arlyce Schiebout

Welcome and Life of the Community: We are part of community worship today on YouTube and in the sanctuary of St Paul's United Church in Perth, Ontario. St Paul's offers worship in various formats: by emailed bulletin, YouTube at www.stpaulsperth.ca, Zoom on occasion, in print at the outer office door, and mail upon request. Please read "*What's Happening*" for additional announcements and news.

Covid Protocols for In-Person Worship Masking and distancing indoors continue to be advised by Public Health and recommended at St. Paul's. If you are experiencing any Covid symptoms or have been in contact with someone who has Covid, please join us on YouTube for the Sunday service.

This Sunday we welcome Jeannie Taylor-Page. Jeannie is a member of Emmanuel United Church, where she is also the Chair of Worship and member of the Senior Choir. She has been a Licenced Lay Worship Leader for 5+ years and has led worship in many different churches across Ottawa and the surrounding rural areas. She takes an inter-cultural, inter-generational and inclusive approach to worship, reaching out to people at any stage of their faith journey. Her faith has been informed by participating in a number of Mission Learning trips to El Salvador, Zambia, Cuba, and Nicaragua.

United Church General Council 44: GC44 Decision Sessions will be held July 21–25. We offer prayers and the presence of the Holy Spirit in hearts and minds of commissioners in their decision making, and for all people who have worked to make GC44 happen in these unique time. Everyone is welcome to attend the in-person installation of the 44th Moderator on Sunday, August 7. The event will be livestreamed on the GC44 YouTube channel. Go to www.generalcouncil44.ca

UPCOMING WORSHIP (Services are offered in-person and on YouTube)

July 31 – LLWL Jeannie Page

August – Worship Sabbatical

September 11 – Return to Worship

The final stage of Rev. Don McLean's call to ministry at St. Paul's United Church, Perth has been achieved with the approval by Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Pastoral Relations. He will officially begin his ministry with us on September 1, 2022. Council has agreed to extend the August Sunday Sabbatical to include the first Sunday in September (Sept. 4). This allows Rev. McLean time to immerse himself in our community and acknowledges the tendency for many in the congregation to return to the Sanctuary following the Labour Day Weekend. It also allows our Music Director, AV Technicians, and Sunday volunteers some well deserved time off and provides opportunity for our custodian to do some deep cleaning and necessary maintenance in the sanctuary. So, let's all plan to gather in person or online to worship on September 11th with our church family and welcome our new minister, Rev. Donald McLean and his family.

Summer Office Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30am to 3:00pm.

Acknowledgement of Land and Affirm United/s'affirmer ensemble

The land on which we live, and worship is the land of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Native People. We give thanks for their generations of stewardship of land and for elders who continue to guide us. As we mourn the loss of Indigenous lives, we seek to support reconciliation and hope with our actions.



St Paul's is a member of Affirm United/S'Affirmer Ensemble, and continues education to live out the learnings of the blessing of God's creation of the diversity of humanity.

We Gather

Acknowledgments and Affirmation

Welcome & Life of the Community

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being. Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, youth, couples and single people. Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace, and justice.

Organ Prelude: Improvisation on HANKEY (I Love to Tell the Story) - Krouse

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle to symbolize the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive within us, this day, and every day.

We light the Affirm candle to proclaim to the members of the Rainbow community and their allies that they are truly welcomed and accepted in this place.

Call to Worship

One: Come, people of God.
Here is the door to life.
Bring all you are.
God is waiting.

All: We stand at the door and knock

One: Come, people of God.
Here is the door to justice.
Leave behind all you do not need.
God is waiting.

All: We stand at the door and knock

One: Come, people of God.
Here is the door to truth.

Behind it is God is waiting.

God is waiting.

All: We stand at the door and knock

One: Come, people of God.

The door is opened for all.

Come in and worship.

God is waiting.

Opening Prayer:

We gather in your realm of love, O God...

May we find ways and words to proclaim your name.

May we be sustained and nurtured by your word.

May we be surrounded in prayer.

May your reign grow in us and in the world.

Amen

*Hymn: "Come to My Heart" VU 661

1 Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.

Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
come to my heart today.

Give me the peace and joy
that only you can bring.

Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
give me a song to sing.

2 Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;
fill me with love today.

Give me the peace and joy
that only you can bring.

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;
give me a song to sing.

3 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
Answer my prayer today.

Give me the peace and joy
that only you can bring.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
give me a song to sing.

Prayer of Confession

We ask – but we are so sure of what the answer should be,
we don't always catch what the answer is.

We search – but we lose track of what it is we are
searching for.

We knock – but at too many doors, and we miss when
one opens.

Forgive us, God, when we ask, search, or knock more for our
own reasons than in support of your vision for us.

We are your community builders, dear God.

Help us to trust a blueprint that we cannot see. Amen.

Words of Affirmation

One: In our searching, God is with us.
In our seeking, God is with us.
Even in our mistakes, God is still with us

All: Let us begin again. Let us give thanks for God's gracious, loving presence.

Children and Youth Time: *How to Pray*

We Encounter Sacred Story

Scripture:

Responsive Psalm 138 VU 860

Gospel Luke 11: 1-13

*Hymn: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom " VU 356

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

2 Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

3 We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

Reflection: “*Dear God ...*”

Musical Interlude: Pass It On - Kaiser, arr. by Hayes

Our Response to Listening and Hearing

Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Wondrous God, your love knows no end. As followers of your way, we, too, seek to extend love. May our offerings be an expression of deep mercy and radical love. Help us to offer them with generous spirits. We give in the name of the Redeemer. Amen.

Organ Anthem: I Want to Be a Christian - Traditional, arr. by McDonald

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (VU 959 – Sung)

We Go Forth to Be the Church in the World

*Hymn: “Three Things I Promise” MV 176

1. Three things I promise, Holy God,
in age and youth, in life and death:
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.
2. Your love unfolded time and space,
and life, and all that life became,
and so, with thankful heart and voice,
through good and ill, I bless your Name.

3. I follow, serve, and cling to Christ
amid our culture's tides and trends,
for here your Name is most revealed:
Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.
4. Enlivened as the Spirit moves
to cleanse, awaken, and renew,
I pray that justice, peace, and truth,
may seed and grow in all I do.
5. If I should live when vigor fades,
and family and friends are gone,
three acts of loving faith remain
when days are slow, and work is done.
6. Revive and guide me, Living God,
as day by day, until my death,
I bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

Blessing

One: The blessing of God is around us.

All: The blessing of God is among us.

One: The blessing of God binds us together.

All: The blessing of God strengthens us as one.

One: The blessing of God travels with us.

All: The blessing of God sticks by us.

One: We go in the persistent, generous, living love of God to bless the world in every deed.

Organ Postlude: Praise Him! Praise Him! - Allen, arr. by McDonald

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The opening prayers, Call to Worship and blessing are taken from Seasons of the Spirit, Pentecost 1 2022 seasonsonline.ca

The Prayer of Dedication is written by Laura Turnbull, **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2022, page 48. Used with permission.