

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH

A spiritual hub for creativity, discovery and growth



Sunday, November 21st, 2021
Reign of Christ Sunday

Worship Leader
Merydth Holte - McKenzie

Director of Music
Brad Mills

25 Gore Street West, Perth, Ontario K7H 2L9
Phone: (613) 267-2973 Fax: (613) 267-3601
Website: www.stpaulsperth.ca Email: admin@stpaulsperth.ca

Welcome and Life of the Community

We are part of community worship today, at home and virtually in the sanctuary of St Paul's, Perth, ON.

St Paul's offers worship in various formats during this pandemic time:

- via emailed bulletin with MP3 music files
- On St. Paul's YouTube channel – go to www.stpaulsperth.ca and click on the YouTube icon.
- On Zoom occasionally – check upcoming worship notes below for dates
- In print at the church door or by mail upon request, please call the office 613-267-2973

If you know someone who has been unable to access these worship options, please contact the office so we can find a way to stay connected to all members of our faith community.

Please read "**What's Happening**" for additional group announcements, dates to remember, team meetings, and upcoming events. Subscribe at admin@stpaulsperth.ca or call 613 267 2973

Upcoming Worship

November 28 - Advent 1 - Hope - Music of St Paul's Handbell Choir leads us into Advent

December 5 - Advent 2 - Peace - Communion

December 6 - Longest Night Service - 7:00 PM on **Zoom** (Monday evening)

A time for faithful reflection for those facing discouragement, losses and grief.

December 12 - Advent 3 - Joy - Acknowledgement of gifts by members of the St. Paul's community

December 19 - Advent 4 - Love

Dates to Remember

November 24 - Council Meeting

November 27 - UCW Yuletide 2021

THANK YOU to congregation members for your offerings via PAR, envelopes, and online donations.

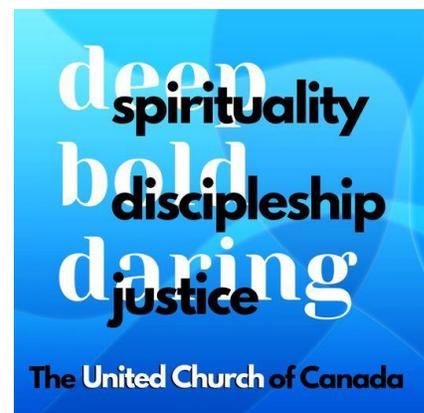
- Drop a cheque in the outside locked mailbox at the church. Mail is checked regularly.
- Mail a cheque to: St. Paul's United Church, 25 Gore St. W. Perth, ON K7H 2L9
- Sign up for PAR - contact the Office: admin@stpaulsperth.ca
- Send an e-transfer to bookkeeper@stpaulsperth.ca
- Click the Donations link on the website: <https://www.stpaulsperth.ca/donate.html>

Acknowledgement of Land and Affirm United/s'affirmer ensemble

The land on which we live and worship is the land of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Native People. We give thanks for their stewardship of land, and we seek to learn and live in reconciliation and hope. We give thanks for elders who guide and show us the way.



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



(*) stand as you are able

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Acknowledgments - Projected on screen

Life of the Community/What's Happening

Greeting

Welcome everyone.

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you... **And also with you.**

Choir Prelude: MV 146 "The Kingdom of God" - Taizé Community

The kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle representing the light of Christ to shine in us and around us.
May we be aware of your gracious presence here in this place and with us always.

Call to Worship

In the name of the God, the Creator, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit we gather,
marvelling the beauty of creation as we breathe in the splendour of life.

We are surrounded by all the signs of God's creation; God's fingerprints are all around us. Praise be to God.

Let us pray:

Loving God, we know that you have created this world and all of those who live in it.

We are surrounded by life, and we are related and connected to all the created world through you, O God.

Loving and Gracious God, let us dwell respectfully in this amazing creation,
remembering that in this wondrous world, we are not alone. We are all part of heaven
and earth.

**We share life with the water and the land, the trees and the grass, with fish,
birds, and all of creation and with our human siblings, brothers and sisters
everywhere. Praise be to God.**

In gratitude, we declare,

God is good and everything God makes is good.

Amen

* Hymn: VU 333 - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayer of Approach:

We thank you, creator God, for the diversity, and complexity, and interconnectedness of the world in which we live. We thank you for the mystery of it, the beauty and the bounty. In our quest to explore and understand it, keep us mindful of our place in your world, as one with possibility and responsibility. As we worship draw us closer to your mystery and your majesty. Amen

Children's Story: "You Belong to the Land"

We Encounter Sacred Story

Scripture :

Deuteronomy 16:18-20 Appoint judges and officials for each of your tribes in every town the Lord your God is giving you, and they shall judge the people **fairly** 'Do not

pervert justice or show partiality. Do not accept a bribe, for the bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous. Follow **justice and justice** alone, so that you may live and possess the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Luke 6:37-38 'Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 'Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.'

Senior Choir Anthem: "Down to the River to Pray" - Traditional, arr. by Curry

As I went down to the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way!

O sisters let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sisters let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way.

O brothers let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down.
Come on brothers, let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray,
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way.

O fathers let's go down
Let's go down, come on down.
O fathers, let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way.

O mothers let's go down,

Come on down, don't you wanna go down?
Come on mothers, let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way.

O sinners, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down.
O sinners, let's go down
Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray
Studyin' about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown?
Good Lord, show me the way.

Meditation : Living out Equity and Equality

Our Response to Listening and Hearing

The Offering:

Generous and loving God, we give thanks for your wonderful and plentiful blessings. We give thanks for the wonder of creation and all creatures that we share it with. May we always treat creation wisely. Offering our talents and gifts to you to care for all the earth and its inhabitants. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

* Prayer of Dedication:

Gracious God, receive the gift of our lives and this offering of our service to carry your love from this place to a world in need. This we pray in the name of Christ, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever. Amen

Prayers of the People:

Dear Lord we ask to today that you be present in all lives. In every living being on this earth. May we as your people live out our commitment to be more inclusive in all of our day to day activities. May we live as Jesus taught us always, "Loving others as we ourselves would want to be loved".

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into

temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

We Go Forth to Be the Church in the World

“Thanks for the worship, folks!” 

*Hymn: VU 697 “O For a World”

- 1 O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.
- 2 O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.
- 3 We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.
- 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.
- 5 O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

Commissioning:

By God's amazing grace, we are grounded in love:
Love for the earth and for all of creation.
Love for our neighbor and for one another.
Love for God, the author of love.
We go not to share that love in the world.
Amen

Benediction:

Let us go forth called to God's holy covenant. God continues to guide us: attending to our stories, healing us as brothers and sisters, showing us how to live in right relations. God promises to bless and encourage us on the path of respect. So go with the peace and promise of God, the energy of the Spirit of Love, and the passion of Jesus. Amen.

Choir Postlude: VU 695 "God is Passionate Life" - Fulmer

- 1 God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us
as we seek justice for all people.
- 2 God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us
as we seek freedom for all people.
- 3 God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us
as we seek equality for all people.
- 4 God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us
as we seek dignity for all people.
- 5 God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us
as we seek peace in our day for all people.

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