

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

A spiritual hub for creativity, discovery and growth



***Sunday, October 3, 2021
19th after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday***

Minister
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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
- During the stay-at-home restrictions, 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

October 3, 10, 17: "***Called to be the Church***", congregational giving program

October 10 - Sacrament of Holy Baptism: Mya Lillian Eve Hitchcock, daughter of Kathryn Mary Millicent Bowes and Brent Matthew Hitchcock

October 24 - Anniversary Sunday

November 14 - ****ZOOM**** service

Dates to Remember

October 4 to 7 - Office Administrator is away

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.

We Gather

Acknowledgements - Projected on screen

Life of the Community/What's Happening!

Piano Prelude: "Here, at Your Table Lord" - Sherwin, arr. by Hayes

Greeting

Leader: Welcome in the name of the Christ.

All: Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Traditional lands of the Algonquin Anishnaabe peoples.

Leader: Welcome to this place of blessing, this place of grace, and this holy sanctuary.

All: We gather this morning to share in the Word, the Cup and the Bread and to receive God's deepest blessing that we might in turn be blessing to others.

Leader: So, be welcome.

All: Be blessed

Leader: Be

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle to remember that in Jesus Christ, we are indeed most blessed.

Call to Worship(based on Psalm 104)

Eternal God, you are indeed great.

Praise God, O my soul.

You spread heaven like a tent and make the winds your messengers.

Praise God, O my soul,

You fix the earth on its foundations so that it can never tremble.

Praise God, O my soul.

You have designed the world of blessing and have blessed us without limit

Praise God, O my soul.

Opening Prayer

Holy and gracious God, we gather as seekers, lovers, disciples and friends.

We gather to give you thanks for the blessings of our lives and to replenish and refuel for the road ahead.

We gather to learn the wisdom of your way and to feel the warmth of your love.

Bless this gathering as we join together in wholehearted. worship. Amen.

* Hymn: VU240 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven,

glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise the Maker all your days!

2 Praise God for the grace and favour
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

3 Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame;
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
All within me, praise God's name!

4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise the high eternal one.

5 Angels, teach us adoration,
you behold God face to face;
sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Children and Youth Time

We Encounter Sacred Story

Scripture :

Exodus 19:1-6

On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. ²They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in

front of the mountain. ³Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

1 Peter 2:1-5

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Luke 12:32-34

Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Meditation: Wisdom to Wonder and Share

Our Response to Listening and Hearing

We offer ourselves, time and talents in service to God’s Mission at St Paul’s and beyond

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we pray that our offerings this morning will multiply our blessings so that our neighbours next door and across the globe might be nourished in body, mind, and spirit. We pray that your reign of love and justice be made tangible and visible and that no one be left out of the banquet. Amen.

Hymn: MV 161 “I Have Called You by Your Name”

1. I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.
2. I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.

Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body, given long ago.

3. I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.
4. I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

Celebration of Holy Communion

A Communion Liturgy

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

O God, you launched into the void earth, air, water, light; created out of nothing, in no time, in no place. Your Word went issuing forth into nothing, through space, its rolling form creating form, its passing whirl creating time.

Let the universe cry out and magnify your name.

You planted the dust with gold and iron ore, rich humus and secret springs, and laced the air with light and spore. You created the elements with flight and movement, and yarned from dust seed-laden fruit and groin-nut, root and herb.

Let the universe cry out and magnify your name.

You beckoned us on the not-yet-side of life and fragile forms both fearful and wonderful. Awesome is the swell of the symphony you have shaped; mighty is the movement of our gathered dance.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and night; Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full. Full of your glory. Hosanna in the

highness, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

But we have stumbled in our dance and our notes have turned to noise. Yet still you have lightly borne us to our feet to turn and turn and turn again. You came to us, our form a mirror of yours. You ate with the out-cast and brought rest to the weary. You healed and spoke in parables, and for a time we were touched by reality.

Let the universe cry out and magnify your name.

But we could not stand in the face of truth, and in time we could stand you no longer. We crafted a cross from a tree. As the universe shuddered in its glide and the tumult of death grew deafening, Jesus gave thanks for the bread he then broke and offered to the disciples saying, "Take this and eat, it is my body given for you." He gave thanks for the wine he then poured, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Drink of this, all of you; this is poured out for you and many."

Eating now this bread and drinking from this cup, we join our brothers and sisters everywhere, those who have passed this way, and those still to come, and with all creation, witnessing to your life, your victory over death, your presence.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

You have splashed us by the play of your waters on our lives and claimed us as your own; so we come to your table bearing gifts, reclaiming the rebirth that is our ongoing way. Let your Spirit hover over these gifts as over the waters at the beginning. Bless them, that we may be united in Christ's body, in the breaking and in the sharing. Far beyond and outracing us is the mystery of your tolerance and love, issuing forth again through space, creating and not returning void. All glory, praise and honour be to you, O God.

Let the universe cry out and magnify your name.

The Lord's Prayer Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; 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. For ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction of the Elements

The Sharing of the Elements

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious God, to you we offer our heartfelt thanks. You have beckoned us to partake of your saving grace first in your Word broken open in preaching, now at your Table and taken into our being. For the bread of Christ's body, for the wine of his blood, for the unity of his unending purpose, we give you our thanks. Keep us in the tenderness of your abiding love, that we may be broken in the nurture of others, until we are again here gathered, restored in you, the unwavering hope of all creation. AMEN

*John McTavish, "Jesus and Elvis" Second edition, Resource Publications, 2020,
Liturgy written by Rev Dr Paul Scott Wilson.*

We Go Forth to Be the Church in the World

"Thanks for the worship, folks!" 

Hymn: VU 424 "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

- 1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.
- 2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. R

Commissioning

Go into the world this week knowing that you are blessed without limit. Share the blessing of God with friends, neighbours, and even strangers. Reach out, extend yourself, and let God surprise you..

Benediction

Be blessed and be a blessing this week

Piano Postlude: "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" - trad. Welsh, arr. by Leatherman

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