

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Paul's Pastoral Charge

September 26, 2021

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jed Drew

WELCOME

INTROIT: MV #12 "Come Touch Our Hearts" (vs. 1)

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

Lighting of Christ Candle, the Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving for the Land

Today as we light the Christ Candle, Creator, we recognize you are the first light, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to Anishinabek, the first people of this land. We also acknowledge all of the Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit of this great land of Turtle Island and their ancestors. We give God thanks for all creation.

GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER

OPENING HYMN: VU #395 "Come In, Come In and Sit Down" (vs. 1, 2 &4)

Refrain: Come in, come in and sit down,
You are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
And we are a part of the family.

You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;
So share in the laughter and cry in the pain, For we are a part of the family.

God is with us in this place, Like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace, for we are a part of the family.

There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
There's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family.

OPENING PRAYER

Creator God, Great Spirit, we lift up our prayers and thanksgiving for the opportunity to gather in this sacred space. In this time of worship and beyond we commit ourselves to be people of reconciliation as taught by our Saviour Jesus. We pray in his name. Amen.

HYMN OF CONFESSION: MV 76 "If I Have Been the Source of Pain" (vs. 1 & 2)

If I have been the source of pain, O God;
if to the weak I have refused my strength;
if, in rebellion, I have strayed away, forgive me, God.

If I have spoken words of cruelty;
if I have left some suffering unrelieved;
condemn not my insensitivity; forgive me, God.

TRIBUTE FOR ORANGE SUNDAY

Orange Shirt Day is on Sunday, September 26.

The day is inspired by Phyllis Jack Webstad's experience. On her first day at residential school in 1973, Phyllis was stripped of her new orange shirt, a shirt that had brought her a sense of affirmation and dignity. Canadians are asked to wear orange as a sign of support for children and communities affected by the Indian Residential School System. Wearing an orange shirt can promote discussion, helping us remember the devastating impacts of residential schools and the courageous testimony of survivors offered through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). It is an opportunity to remind Canadians of the need to continue to work diligently towards fulfilling the TRC's 94 Calls to Action.

Let Us Pray

Today we wear orange to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools. Today we wear orange and we pray for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling. Today we wear orange and we are thankful for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice. Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation. Help us, God, to remember and act on this this every day. Amen.

—*This prayer was inspired by Honarine Scott's Orange Shirt Day [blog](#).*

HYMN: MV #78 "God Weeps"

God weeps at love withheld, at strength misused,
at children's innocence abused, and till we change the way we love, God weeps.

God bleeds at anger's fist, at trust betrayed,
at women battered and afraid, and till we change the way we win, God bleeds.

God cries at hungry mouths, at running sores,
at creatures dying without cause, and till we change the way we care, God cries.

God waits for stones to melt, for peace to seed,
for hearts to hold each other's need, and till we understand the Christ, God waits.

Let Us Pray

Vibrant God Your creation explodes with the colours of the rainbow,
Your peoples reveal the beauty of diversity.
We remember today when the joy and dignity of a precious child was destroyed.
We lament today for the childhoods lost through the residential school system.
We mourn for the spirits crushed and the futures compromised.
Celebrate the hope and joy of every child,
Tell the stories of resistance that make us stronger.
Build the bonds of solidarity to ensure "never again"
In the name of the one who was child among us. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S HYMN: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus cares for all the children. All the children of the world.
Red, brown, yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight.
Jesus cares for the children of the world.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-24

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ. Amen.

MESSAGE: “Doing My Part!”

HYMN OF REFLECTION: MV#79 “Spirit Open My Heart” (vs. 1, 2 & refrain)

Refrain: Spirit open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.
As You love, may I love; in receiving and in giving.
Spirit open my heart.

God replace my stony heart, with a heart kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to Your grace, I now surrender. (Refrain)

Write Your love upon my heart, as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word and deed, may my living be Your glory. (Refrain)

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER

It is our privilege, Creating One, to share from our individual bounties. On these plates and in these bodies are our gifts to the world: money, commitment, and thanksgiving. We pray over these offerings in the name of the One who shared his all. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: VU #960 “The Lord’s Prayer”

IN JESUS’ NAME WE GO TO SERVE

CLOSING HYMN: MV #89 “Love Is the Touch”

Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

One: Let us surround ourselves in the Spirit;

All: The Spirit guides us.

One: Let us surround ourselves in the Light;

All: The Light directs us.

One: Let us surround ourselves in the Wisdom;

All: God’s Wisdom nurtures us.

One: Let us surround ourselves in the Love;
All: God's Love enfolds us.
 One: Be brave. Be strong. Be humble.
All: Yes, we can for God's peace is with us. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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We welcome all who join us in worship today.
 Please be reminded that you must register to attend worship
 Live-streaming will continue for your viewing on our YouTube channel

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In our thoughts and prayers this week:
 Doreen Smith, the Fitzpatrick family, Barb Gowman, Brenda Marshall and Al Meyer.

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The flowers in the Sanctuary today are donated by Marianne Ferris in loving memory of her parents Charlie and Ruby Riach.



We wish Sara Van Hoeve on Monday, Sept. 27 and Mary Johnson on Sept. 28 a very Happy Birthday. May you both have a great day.

We wish belated 2nd Anniversary wishes to Michelle & Darryll Marshall for September 20 and 8th Anniversary wishes to Ashley and Andrew Perry on September 21.



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Today the Sunday school message will be uploaded to YOUTUBE after worship. Each week the kids will get a story and the next day a bag will be delivered with their craft instructions and supplies in it. Each family will have two reusable bags - one for current week and **we ask that they hand the bag from previous week back on delivery date - to be used the following week.**



We are starting in-person Sunday school starts on October 17 – looking forward to seeing you.

***** If you have any old bed sheets in a plain colour (no flowers) please donate to Sunday school. We need these prior to October 13. Please drop off at the ramp entrance Mon. to Wed. between 9-12 p.m.**

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UCW Bazaar Supplies Still Needed – November 20th

Finished bazaar items can be dropped off at Laura's or Julie's house before – **PLEASE DROP OFF BEFORE OCTOBER 3.**

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|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Old Christmas decorations | old Christmas greenery | old artificial trees | Ribbon |
| Buttons | old sweaters | thin gage wire | hot glue sticks (skinny) |
| Pins with white ends | felt (all colours) | small Ziplock bags | large Ziplock bags |
| Christmas tree cookie cutter | mason and glass jars | old music sheets | candles, red and white |
| Fabric: red, green, yellow, grey, white | | yarn: red, green, yellow, grey white | |

Craft supply items can be dropped off at Julie's house.

Julie Avery: 36 Woodhaven Drive, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 0A5 Tel: 519-403-4192

Laura Mahoney: 4 Hampton Court, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5G7 Tel: 519-842-8575

Please Note: You can VIEW items for the Bazaar by going to Facebook – type in Frosty Fair Bazaar Tillsonburg, click on the Snowman, this brings up the page. You can scroll through or click on PHOTOS and choose category that you would like to look. Click on the items for the price and description.

MARK THE DATE! AOTS Men's Club: Sun., Oct. 24th, 2021, take-out smoked pork chop dinner, hosted and served by St. Paul's AOTS. The cost will be \$15.00 for the takeout package which will include A smoked pork chop, baked potato, veggies and coleslaw with a butter tart for dessert.

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