

# THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Paul's Pastoral Charge

April 13, 2025

**Palm Sunday**

## **PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dave Beres**

**WELCOME**

**INTROIT: The Choir**

## **LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

### **GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY**

We begin our worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on Aboriginal lands that have been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning. As settlers, we're grateful for the opportunity to meet here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

One: Honor and praise.

**All: Honor, praise, and glory.**

One: In celebration, we join the crowds of old,

**All: waving branches, giving honor to the Messiah.**

One: Yet, our celebration is bittersweet, for our story doesn't end here.

**All: We know the pain of what lies ahead.**

One: Today anticipates the rest of the story—

**All: a story of betrayal and death, a story of hope and resurrection.**

#### **OPENING HYMN: VU #123 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"**

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna the happy children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
2. From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving, and singing clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
Content that little children should on his bidding wait.
3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, earth let your anthem ring.  
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,  
and in his humble presence eternally rejoice.

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**

One: Thank you, God, for your triumphal entry into our world.

**All: As we celebrate a new day, creation proclaims "Hosanna!"**

One: We too come joining the chorus, lifting up our praise.

**All: The God who came and keeps coming.**

One: We celebrate your son Jesus and we are reminded of your great love for us.

**All: In the midst of that love, we often miss the mark!**

One: Forgive us for the times where we have gone about our own business, concerned with many things, ignorant to the needs of those around us, unaware to the call of your love in our heart.

**All: God of grace, equip us to be your servants, listening, eager, ready. Amen.**

## **PRAISE SONG: In Christ Alone (vs. 1 & 4)**

## **A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

## **CHILDREN'S HYMN: CCS #96 "He's Still Working on Me" (vs. 1)**

He's still working on me

To make me what I ought to be.

It took him just a week to make the moon and stars

The sun and the earth and Jupiter and Mars.

How loving and patient He must be

He's still workin' on me.

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

<b>SCRIPTURE:</b>	<b>Gospel:</b>	<b>Luke 19:28-40 pg. 83</b>
	<b>Reader:</b>	<b>This is the Word of the Lord.</b>
	<b>All:</b>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**MESSAGE: "Preparation Time" -Rev'd Karlene Brown-Palmer**

**SELECTION: The Choir**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

### **OFFERTORY HYMN VU #539 "God of All Good" (vs.3)**

3. Maker, whose bounty all creation shows;  
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;  
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows;  
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)**

**Ever-present God, with this offering, we present also ourselves: all that we have been, all that we are, and all that we shall become, and our resolve to walk in your way. Accept us and our offering, we pray for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

One: We pray to you, Lord of palm-branches and the cross, for you understand us and in love you have promised not to push away any who come to you. So, we pray for people who feel pushed away:

**All: Pushed away from a living faith in Jesus by pressure from friends and family; those who feel pushed away by other people in churches if they do not share the same kinds of ideas, or ways, or clothes; for people who are pushed out by those who want power, whose main love to be noticed, to have control.**

One: We pray for your church that all those who trust in Jesus will be made able by your Spirit to follow his humility, to see and imitate his servant life, to welcome and not to condemn. Help your church to be like Jesus.

**All: We pray to you, Lord of palm-branches and the cross, for you know the warm glow of being praised and the loneliness of being hated.**

One: We pray for world leaders, quick to stand in the limelight taking decisions which affect everyone in the world

**All: but slow at times to do the steady, less glamorous work to which they are called.**

One: We pray for world leaders to understand their role to serve the peoples of the world,

**All: that self-importance will be replaced by practical action to make a difference, and jockeying for position be replaced by genuine efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for those who are weak.**

One: In days when food banks are required in our land to feed families who struggle to provide the basics for life,

**All: we ask that you will re-arrange our priorities and help us to live more like Jesus.**

One: We pray to you, Lord of palm-branches and the cross, because you know how quickly life changes to death. We pray for those who have recently lost those whom they have loved.

**All: In the shock, confusion, pain and sorrow especially of unexpected loss, we pray for hearts to be open to the comfort of your Spirit, shown through friendship and community and as deep calls to deep.**

One: We remember those we know who mourn in these days, who need to be sure of that you invite those in sorrow to turn to you; and we name them before you now...

We ask, God of grace, that you will make us more like some of the crowd: that we will follow Jesus and give him our praise in the way we live; that we will turn away from wrong and evil and stand on the Master's side,

**All: that we will be faithful in worshipping the one who has come in the Lord's name through our singing, our worship, our prayers, our attention, in giving our skills, time and means through the days of our lives; and in the offering which we make now.**

One: Bless, we pray, all that is given to your glory and the good of many. Through Jesus who is the Saviour of all.

All: **Amen.**

written by Rev Grant Barclay. <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

### **IN JESUS' NAME WE GO TO SERVE**

#### **CLOSING HYMN: VU #127 "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"**

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
O Savior meek, pursue your road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die:  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The winged squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, your power and reign.

### **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION POSTLUDE**

**We welcome all who join us for in-person worship today and online.**

Everyone is invited to join for fellowship and refreshments in the Friendship Room down the hall after today's service. Members of the MFC are hosting today.

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In our thoughts and prayers this week are Carol Crocker,  
Brian and Lynn Wolstenholme

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Flowers are given by an anonymous donor and will be delivered to someone who needs to know we are thinking of them.

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To my St. Pauls family: Thank you for thinking of me with such a beautiful floral bouquet - flowers always make me happy.

Blessings to everyone. Lynda

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**Today is Ashley Perry and Shirley Welsh's birthday.  
Have a wonderful day ladies!**



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The **EASTER special offering envelopes** are to support Youth for Christ/Upper Deck and Tillsonburg Salvation Army.

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**EASTER SERVICES**

**Maundy Thursday – April 17 at 6 p.m. (note time change)**

Good Friday – April 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Easter Sunrise – April 20 at 8:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday – April 20 at 10:30 a.m.

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**BUTTER TARTS on Palm Sunday** - pick up more butter tarts after church in the Friendship Room to compliment your Easter Dinner the following week. We sell them fresh only and they can be frozen at home if necessary."



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**AOTS FELLOWSHIP CLUB -SAVE THE DATE: April 25, 2025**

We are inviting our Messy church families to join St. Paul's Sunday school and youth group for an after school (chill out) party from 4:30 until 6:00 P.M. at the UPPER DECK Youth Centre 19 Queen St. behind the mall. There will be a chance to play games, shoot some pool, play sticks or just kick back after a hard week of school or work! We will have snacks, pizza and refreshments. In order to have enough pizza etc. please RSVP to [fcollis98@gmail.com](mailto:fcollis98@gmail.com) or [stpaulsaots21@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsaots21@gmail.com)

**\*\*if you plan on attending all children must be accompanied by an adult\*\*.**

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### Celebrate 100

REMEMBER -- to contribute to the "Celebrate 100" a number relating to 100. All monies will stay at St. Paul's --- do you have an idea to celebrate 100? We may announce a contest soon.

Direct your questions to Mary Anne Silverthorn

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### Foodbank Drive – April



At this time, we are in **urgent need** of the following high-demand items:

To help meet current needs, we are focusing on two donation themes:

- Warm & Cozy** – Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are always appreciated,
- Essentials** – Shampoo and toilet paper are small but vital items that make a big impact on daily life.

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### Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> is fast approaching for our annual Yard Sale –

indoor this year from 8-1p.m. We are in need of:

Good used clothing, shoes, purses, Jewelry, children’s and adults books; puzzles, games and toys also glassware, housewares, bedding, linens china and small furniture items and tools

You can drop off items Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 8:30-12 noon. (place on trolley) by the Bidwell doors

For more info. contact: Brenda, Lesley or Karon



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### SOMETHING NEW is COMING to St. Paul’s



A member of our church family had an idea and Council gave their approval. Several donors came forward and now we have a NEW project.

To celebrate--- the 100th anniversary of the UCC, our proud Canadian Heritage our 158<sup>th</sup> year for St. Paul’s UC

\*\*\*\*\* the memories of loves ones –

(Plaque and wording of citation to be determined later)

Council approved the purchase of a flag and flagpole to be erected near the Bidwell St. Entrance – exact site to be determined.

We have the cost covered: however if you would like to make a donation ---- write a cheque OR e-transfer monies marked payable to St. Paul’s UC and marked flagpole/flag. All donations will be added to your yearly giving’s and a receipt issued at the end of the year. Cost of the project – Approximately \$4500.00.

Includes—professional installation etc.

Hoping to have this all completed prior to July 1—to celebrate Canada Day.

Stay tuned!!! This is exciting!!!

There will be a celebration at the time we "Raise the Flag" for the first time – mid June we hope –STAY TUNED

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Once again, the **UCW are taking orders for geraniums** at a cost of \$3.50 each. A variety of colours are available: red, white, pink and orange. To place your order please contact Wilma Jeffery at (510) 688-0065 or Rita Van Lamoen at (519) 842-9271. Pick-up will be in early May. **Last day to order May 5<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your support!



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## Seated Massage Workshops



Learn how to do a relaxing seated massage by using some simple and easy to learn techniques focusing on neck, shoulders, back, hands and feet.

Turn your family and friends into putty in your hands. Wear comfortable, loose clothing and bring a pillow.

Dates: Tues. May 6 and Wed. May 7

Location: St. Paul's United Church - Friendship room

Cost: Attending one session \$20 each person  
Attending both sessions \$30 each person

Bring a partner or we will find you a partner for you.

Sign-up sheets outside the Friendship room – this is a fundraiser for the church.

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Please join us for a new outreach social program to Celebrate 100 years of the United Church. **All ladies and gentlemen are welcome for CHAIR**

**YOGA** every Thursday at 2:15 PM in the friendship room, starting on **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. This will be via "YOU TUBE". The first session will be about 25 minutes.

- Work at your own comfort level.
- Great way to keep fit and stay healthy.
- Enjoy some social time with friends.
- Come for the Yoga and stay for the tea.
- SIGN UP BY THE FRIENDSHIP ROOM.



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### Community Kitchen:

- a) We are looking for a meal delivery driver for our summer session. The time commitment would be approximately 1 hour for 2 different Saturday's (June 7 and August 2).

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*The summer camping season is just around the corner and enrollment has already started. The AOTS Fellowship club, UCW Friendship club and CD/Worship committee have 3 spaces available. \*\* If you would like to **donate to the camp fund please make your donation out to St. Paul's United***

Church and mark summer camp in the memo. **\*\*If you have kids aged 5-13 that would be interested in attending summer camp please contact Dave Collis at [stpaulsaots84@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsaots84@gmail.com) or Brenda Marshall at [fnbmarshall@sympatico.ca](mailto:fnbmarshall@sympatico.ca)**

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**Just a gentle reminder:**

**Let's Celebrate our 100th Anniversary wearing a Name Tag. Contact Lisa at 519-409-1058 or add your name on the Name Tag sign-up sheet on the table near the Friendship Room.**

<b>DID YOU KNOW?</b>	... that there are guest crafters who share their talent at Messy Church? You could share your talent too!
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LicenSing #2401; CCLI: #239572



