

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Paul's Pastoral Charge

May 2, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT: VU # 412 "This is the Day" (vs. 1)

1. This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved of God, live as children of the light. We clothe ourselves with faith and love, and the hope of salvation. Christ died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live with Christ. We give thanks for Christ's saving work.

OPENING HYMN: VU # 407 "O Joy of God"

O joy of God, we seek you in the morning,
And long to see the glory of your face.
Rise on our darkness with your sun's new dawning,
Flood our being in this feast of grace.

O life of God, for you our spirits hunger;
Unless we feed on you, we surely die.
With love and faith renewed and hope grown younger,
Send us from here to serve you, God most high.

O peace of God, you pass our understandings,
Safe through each moment keep us every day.
With joy divine and mercy never ending,
Direct our path and prosper all our way.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, you bring light out of darkness and hope out of despair. Share your love with us this day that we may better love each other. Touch our hearts and help our love shine forth in a world hungry to know your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all, you love us beyond compare and are faithful to us even when we turn away. You are patient and wise, caring and just. We admit that we are not worthy of your love for us or deserving of your good favor. We have ignored your will, treated others of your children with disdain, and failed to be grateful for your

mercy and blessings. Forgive us once again. Restore us to right relationship with you and with one another, for we ask it in Christ's name. Amen.

CHILDREN'S FOCUS:

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE: Gospel: 1 John 4: 7-21

MESSAGE: "God's Character - Love"

SONG OF REFLECTION VU # 273 "The King of Love" (vs. 1 & 3)

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We do not live on bread alone, but by your Word, loving God. May that Word fill our hearts and our hands, all that we have, and all that we are, that it may be a blessing in your world. `In Jesus' name, we ask it. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE VU# 664 "What a Friend We have in Jesus"

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Pause for silent prayer for – Our world, Canada, our church, Covid-19 - the people infected and affected,

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Pause for silent prayer for – those who are sick, those getting ready for surgery, those who have had surgery those mourning, those who feel sad and lonely, our children, children and youth.

- Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Savior, is our refuge-- take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus strength will shield our weakness; And will find new courage there.

IN JESUS' NAME WE GO TO SERVE

CLOSING HYMN: MV #209 "Go Make A Difference"

Refrain: Go make a difference.
 We can make a difference.
 Go make a difference in the world.

- We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a difference in the world.
- We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace
Go make a difference in the world.

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

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**We welcome all who join us in worship today,
either online or reading the bulletin at home.**

We are now Live-streaming our worship services, we will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. If for any reason you cannot join at that time the recording will still be available on our YouTube Channel.

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In our thoughts and prayers this week:

Mary Epple, the Fitzpatrick family, Barb Gowman, Irv Horton, Leslie Jackson, Donna Just, Harold Kirktown,
Brenda Marshall, Peg Simmons, Penny & Darcy Smith, Patricia Swart, the Tobias family.

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Belated Birthday Wishes to **Harley Jackson** on Wed. April 28 AND **Rev. Karlene** for yesterday,
Sat. May 1st. We hope you both enjoyed your day.

On Thursday, May 6th **Barb Aubrey** will celebrate her 80th Birthday. We would like to thank Barb for being a member of St. Paul's Choir for many years. Happy Birthday Barb and May God bless you with many more birthdays in good health.

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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.



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A special thank you to all who purchased geraniums this year. We sold 670 geraniums! Lots of green thumbs out there! A big thank you to Esther Sol, Laura Mahoney, Wilma Jeffery and Rita Van Lamoen for all they did to organize and support this project! Your efforts are greatly appreciated! Proceeds will support the UCW outreach efforts.



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Reaching out a helping hand

The recent apartment fire in Tillsonburg has displaced some of our own St Paul's members. Thankfully no one was hurt, however one family lost everything. As a town there has been appeals for clothing - male (xl, 36 pants size 12 shoes) and female (3xl size 11 shoes). We know they will need many things as they seek to put their lives back together. When we get details of where donations can be made we will update you.

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