

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Paul's Pastoral Charge

October 10, 2021 – Thanksgiving Sunday

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

INTROIT: MV #21 “Open Our Hearts”

Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.
Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God. Open our hearts

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95

OPENING HYMN: VU #218 “We Praise You O God”

1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.
2. We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.
3. With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

OPENING PRAYER

In every season, God of love and goodness, your steadfast love sustains us. As a community of faith, you call us to remember that you are our source. In this season of thanksgiving, our hearts are full of gratitude for what your hand has so generously provided us. As we celebrate today, we look ahead with hope, allowing the Spirit to guide our lives. Be present with us in this time of worship, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God, you have given us so much. Give us one more thing. Give us thankful hearts because we know our hearts can be hard and cold. We often hold on when we should let go. We are hoarding when we could be generous and doubting when we should lean on faith. We are fearful instead of trusting in your everlasting care. Give us again the assurance of your love and care, and fill us with grateful hearts and open hands. Amen.

CHILDREN'S FOCUS

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

CHILDREN HYMN: VU#291 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (vs 1, 5 & refrain)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. [Refrain]
5. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God our maker, who has made all things well. [Refrain]

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

MESSAGE: "In God's Care"

MINISTRY OF SONG: "Yes, God is Good" (vs. 1, 3 & 5)

1. Yes, God is good: in earth and sky,
From ocean's depths and spreading wood,
Ten thousand voices seem to cry,
God made us all, and God is good.
3. The merry birds prolong the strain,
Their song with ev'ry spring renewed;
And balmy air, and falling rain,
Each softly whispers, God is good.
5. For all Thy gifts we bless Thee, Lord,
But chiefly for our heavenly food;
Thy pard'ning grace, Thy quick'ning word,
These prompt our song that God is good.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God, we thank you for the abundance of your provision. Grant us wisdom to use these offerings to the glory of your Holy name. Strengthen us to give generously out of all that we are and all that you have entrusted to our care. We dedicate these offerings with thanksgiving for your extravagant love for all of humanity and creation. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Gracious and generous God, we give you thanks, for the gift of life for we are made in your image. We think of all those in whom your divine image is still distorted.

All: We pray for your mercy and love to rest upon them. God in your mercy be with them.

One: Caring and providing God, we give you thanks, for our homes that shelter and protect us. We think of those without shelter and water and protection today.

All: We pray for your generous provision to be poured out upon them. God in your mercy be with them.

One: Abundant and giving God, we give you thanks, for our food that nourishes and strengthens us. We think of those without adequate food and nourishment today.

All: We pray that you will feed them with the bread of life. God in your mercy be with them.

One: Loving and compassionate God, we give you thanks, for our friends and family who love and comfort us in times of need. We think of those who are alone and feel abandoned in the midst of social distancing.

All: God comfort and surround them that they may sense your presence. God in your mercy be with them.

One: Caring and healing God, we give you thanks, for hospital workers who minister in the midst of this pandemic. We think of those who have lost loved ones and of those who are afraid yet still work.

All: God strengthen and hold them in your healing presence. Give them wisdom that they may respond with your love.

(Pause to offer your own prayers of thanksgiving)

One: Gracious and generous God, we remember all the gifts you have given us,

All: We remember how lavishly you have provided. We remember how lovingly you have cared.

One: We remember especially that greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ our Saviour,

All: And we give you thanks. Amen.

IN JESUS' NAME WE GO TO SERVE

CLOSING HYMN VU# 520 "We Plough the Fields"

1. We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by your almighty hand.
you send the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
we thank God, O holy God for all your love.

2. You only are the Maker of all things near and far;
you paints the wayside flower, you light the evening star;
the wind and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread. [Refrain]

3. We thank you, then, O Maker, for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,
and what from you long for, our humble, thankful hearts! [Refrain]

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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We welcome all who join us in worship on Thanksgiving Sunday
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.

Our sympathy and prayers are with the Carmichael family on the passing of Honor Carmichael on Tuesday, September 28. Cremation has taken place and a private graveside service has been arranged.



The flowers this morning are given by Mary Anne Silverthorn. On this Thanksgiving Sunday, I am very grateful and extremely appreciative of the ongoing support and friendship from the people in this amazing church family. Thanks to all! Happy Thanksgiving. The flowers today will be divided and delivered to shut-ins after church.



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On Monday October 11th, we would like to send **Happy Anniversary wishes to Barb and Rick Aubrey** as they celebrate their **52nd** wedding anniversary. We are looking forward to the time when you will both be able to come back to sing in our choir.

On Friday October 15th we would like to wish a very **Happy Birthday to Marlene Baldwin** as she celebrates her birthday.

May God bless you all as you celebrate your special day and we pray that He will watch over you for many more years in good health.

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If you would like to have your birthday or anniversary announced in the bulletin please let Helen know – you don't have to give your birth year just day and month if you wish. We want to celebrate all occasions with our church family. If you previously emailed me I have a note already in a birthday/anniversary calendar.

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October is clergy appreciation month. St. Paul's is very unique. We have one full time clergy and 3 VAM's (Volunteer Associate Minister). Please express your personal appreciation to **Rev Karlene, Rev. Pat, Rev. Maurice and Rev. Bonnie** throughout this month and each and every day.

Clergy often work long hours taking away for their own spiritual needs and the needs of their families They often hide their grief to support others who are suffering-- they are a calming presence in uncertainty. Please let your minister(s) know that they are making a difference. Pray for them, write a thank you note, send an email or letter of appreciation and encouragement. Show them you care and let them know they are making a difference!!!!



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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 - October 24 – looking forward to seeing you again.

****IMPORTANT: Parents please see the attached letter at the end of the bulletin****

***** 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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The Annual Meeting for 2020 will take place on **Sunday, October 24, 2021** immediately following Worship. If you wish to attend you must pre-register (in the usual way) – attend Worship on that Sunday and stay for the meeting. There will be no one admitted between Worship and the AGM.

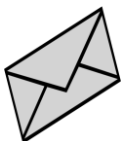


This is just due to the restrictions and screening that are necessary to enter the building.

The meeting will be available for our church family to view in real time either on Zoom or YouTube. Please review the information attached to the emailed/mailed copy of the bulletin.

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The funds collected from the **Special "Thanksgiving"** envelopes will be sent to the **Helping Hands Food Bank and DASO – (Domestic Abuse Services Oxford).**



The funds collected from the **Special "Anniversary"** envelopes will be sent to the **Canadian Food Grains and Community Kitchen.**

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The flower committee is seeking members who would be willing to begin their tenure immediately following Thanksgiving 2021.

Responsibilities include: taking a turn delivering flowers immediately following Sunday worship, delivering poinsettias (in December) to members of St. Paul's who are shut ins, decorating the church at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

For further information please contact Dave Collis (chair of Worship committee) at: fcollis98@gmail.com 519 409-0204



UCW online Frosty Fair Bazaar Supplies Still Needed – November 20th

Finished bazaar items can be dropped off at Laura's or Julie's house before – **PLEASE DROP OFF ASAP!**

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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 early by going to Facebook – type in Frosty Fair Bazaar Tillsonburg; you will see the Snowman at the top of the page. You can choose category i.e. knitting, crafts that you would like to look at and then click on the items for the price and description.

**AOTS SMOKED PORK CHOP TAKEAWAY SUPPER
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2021**

\$15 (Paid at Pickup, no change given)

CURBSIDE PICK FROM 4:30 TO 6:00 p.m. IN BIDWELL STREET PARKING LOT

Supper By Reservation ONLY

EMAIL: stpaulsaots84@gmail.com OR PHONE 519 842-4188 (Dave Morris)

NOT LATER THAN Monday, October 18th

Indicating number of dinners and contact phone number

Proceeds to Fund Community Youth Activities



Volunteers needed for the **Christmas Hamper distribution, Christmas Kettles and the Toy Unit.** If you are interested in helping there is a training day on October 13 at 7:00 p.m. at The Salvation Army Church at 110 Concession Street.



Licenses: LicenSing #2401; CCLI: #2395724

Greetings St. Paul's Family & Friends,

Desmond and I extend warm Thanksgiving greetings to you as you connect with love ones and recognize God's continued blessings flowing to us each and every day. I encourage you to reach out to someone near you who is alone, share the turkey dinner not because someone is hungry for food but hungry for others to care.



Our Messy Church shared this Gratitude Scavenger hunt for our kids to participate in at home and I thought it would be so good if the entire St. Paul's family and friends could participate.

So, Let's get going.....



GRATTUDE SCAVENGER HUNT

- Find something that makes you happy.
- Find something to give to someone else to make them smile.
 - Find one thing that you love to smell.
 - Find one thing you enjoy looking at.
- Find something that is your favourite colour.
- Find something you are thankful for in nature.
- Find something you can use to make a gift for someone.
 - Find something that is useful for you.



How was it? Did you have fun? Let's make Gratitude our attitude. As you go through this season of Thanksgiving be mindful of all our blessings both great and small!

Below are the words and link for the song "Thank You" by The Katinas, let's make them a prayer of Thanksgiving

- <https://youtu.be/xvP6WX5VpjY>

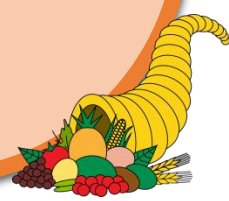
Thank You

Just a little while longer I wanna pray. Can't get you off my mind so I came to say, "Thank you Lord, just for loving me. Alright many times I do forget every need that you have met. Oh, thank you Lord, I know you're showing me, you are there when I am down and out, you're holding me. Your love is o amazing, oh it changed me.

Refrain: Here I am with all I have. Raise my hands to worship you, I wanna say thank you, oh, thank you. For everything, for who you are, you cover me and touch my heart I wanna say thank You.

I could have died in my sin but you saved me. Didn't have any hope at all, you gave me peace divine, strength to carry on, yeah, I should have been the one to pay but instead you took my place. Amazing grace, it's more than just a song. Even though I don't deserve your love for me you look beyond my fault and you showed me mercy. (Refrain x 2) I wanna say thank You. (x 4)

Peace & Love,
Rev. Karlene & Desmond



DEAR PARENTS,

Well due to a little mishap on my part – I am delaying the start of Sunday school until October 24. There is a change in the procedure that I want you to be aware of.

1. You must still register to come to church – contacting Mary Anne no later than Wednesday to let her know that you and your children (please confirm number) will be attending.
2. On Sunday morning at 10:15 – we ask that children proceed immediately to Friendship Room.
PARENTS: (please sign them in at the door).
3. Children sanitize hands before entering room and ensure masks are in place.
4. NO PARENTS TO ENTER THE FRIENDSHIP ROOM.
5. Rev. Karlene will meet with the children for a few minutes before church.
6. Sunday school program – children will be assigned their own seats.
7. Each child will have own ziplock bag of craft supplies – that will be theirs each week.
8. At 11:05 we will start the clean-up – each child must clean up their own scraps and put in garbage as well as putting their supplies back in their own ziplock bag.
9. Children will sanitize hands again as they leave the room.
10. When church service is over – parents will come to the door of the Friendship Room and get their children --- they **MUST** sign them out.
11. PLEASE --- PARENTS ----- DO NOT ENTER THE FRIENDSHIP ROOM.

Thank you for your co-operation as we strive to do all we can to keep everyone – safe at this time.
God bless,

Karen Hodges