

# *St. Paul's United Church*

10:30 a.m. January 1, 2017

\*Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer\*

Prelude

Idyll

King

## **Greeting (Responsive):**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

(Ps. 150:6)

Introit:

Behold!

MV 115

*Behold, behold, I make all things new,  
beginning with you and starting from today.  
Behold, behold, I make all things new,  
my promise is true for I am Christ the way.*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship (Responsive):**

Generous God, for the abundance of your blessings to us day by day and year by year,

**We give you our thanks.**

For the simple pleasures of life: for garden harvests, coffee conversation, and familiar surroundings.

For health and strength to appreciate the wonder of life,  
for needs met and desires fulfilled.

**We give you our thanks.**

For foods distributed to nourish body and spirit,  
for homes which supply shelter, which nurture order and beauty, and offer hospitality,

**We give you our thanks.**

With hearts that forgive as freely as you have forgiven,  
with enthusiasm of spirit for the gift of life,  
with music which declares your everlasting goodness,  
with prayers for mutual understanding and peace.

**We worship you with joy.**

With creative pursuits which contribute our God-given talents,  
with words which honour you as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,  
with time volunteered and dedicated to service in church and community,  
with years committed to extending the love of Jesus Christ.

**We worship you with joy.**

With gifts of money which reach farther than we can manage ourselves,  
with deeds done in service of neighbour and stranger,  
with holy days set apart to celebrate your goodness and grace,  
with family and friends distant and nearby,

**We worship you, God, with grateful hearts and joyful spirit.  
Alleluia. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** Let All Things Now Living VU 242

**Prayer of Approach (Unison):**

**Lord, as this new year dawns, welcome. Welcome into our world and into our lives. Sow light in our hearts. Let it germinate and grow and bring forth fruit. Birth in us something new. Let your peace take root. Nurture it, encourage it to flourish. Let your love blossom with the fragrance of patience and compassion. Let it strengthen forgiveness and understanding. Let your life emerge in us, through us, around us, bringing newness to all it touches. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**Message of Thanksgiving:** Psalm 103:1-5

**Hymn:** Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven VU 240

**Message of Promise:** Psalm 27:1-3

**Offering**

**Offertory** Polish Carol Tucker

**Dedication Verse: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures high and low;*

*Give thanks to God in love made known:*

*Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

**God, our provider, we marvel that you care for each individual personally. Thank you for giving Joseph dreams for guidance and a trusting heart to follow you. Help us to discern the nudges and leading of your Holy Spirit in this new year. May we take action swiftly in response to your call to compassion for people in need. Bless them in practical ways through our church's ministries. We dedicate our tithes and offerings in the name of Jesus. Amen. Call to Lament for Our Sinfulness:**

Psalm 51:1-4

**Hymn:** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (vs. 1,3,5) VU 271

**Call to Lament for the Suffering Caused by Others:**

Psalm 73:1-5; 18,19,27,28

**Hymn:** Precious Lord VU 670

**Message of Commitment:** Psalm 119:9-16

**Hymn:** How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1, 2) VU 660

**Prayer of Confession and Recommitment (Responsive):**

One: God is with us and will not let us go.

**All: God live in us, God live with us, God live through us.**

**Anthem** See Amid the Winter's Snow Goss

**Message of Continuing Promise:** Psalm 46:1-3

**Hymn:** One More Step Along the World I Go (vs.1,4) VU 639

**Message of Praise:** Psalm 111:1-4

**Hymn:** I Am the Light of the World VU 87

**God's Blessing**

**Choral Closing:** We Are Marching VU 646

**Postlude** Good King Wenceslas Elliott

***We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude***

**Greeters:** January 1:

**Ushers:** Left Side: Linda & Alastair Lamont  
Middle: Larry Buick  
Right Side: Isabel Green & Roger Miller  
Upstairs: Barbara & Mel McGuigan

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** Next Sunday, January 8, 2017

This meeting is to consider a candidate being brought forward by the Joint Search Committee.

**OBSERVER** subscriptions are ready for renewal. If you wish to continue your subscription or would like to start one please contact Cathy Simpson at 458-1183. Cost is \$25/year

**2017 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Narthex, if you are interested in donating to the church and are not on PAR or using weekly offering envelopes please contact Cathy Simpson in the office at 458-1183.

**Brown bag needs:** (flip top lids for cans please)

Proteins flaked chicken, ham or turkey  
beans, soups, ravioli,  
Juice Boxes small please (tetra boxes)  
Snacks cheese/crackers, individually packed cookies

Puddings

Fruit Cups/sauce

small chocolate bars. granola bars

vanilla, chocolate, tapioca, fudge.....

apple, mixed berry, fruit cocktail .....

**Thank You for thinking of others...**