

St. Paul's United Church
March 15th, 2015 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
* = *please stand as you are able*

Prelude:

***Greeting**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,
and also with you.

Introit MV 85(x2)
*Take O take me as I am. Summon out what I will be.
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive)

This is the fifth step on our Lenten journey, the step of sacrifice.
Be with us, Lord, as we take this step.
This requires the willingness to give all of your life to the Lord.
Be with us, Lord, as we commit our lives to you.
Come, let us worship and offer our voices of praise to God.
Let us open our hearts and spirits to God this day. AMEN.

Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** I the Lord of sea and sky VU 509

Prayer of Reconciliation (Unison)

Compassionate God, forgive us when we falter on this Lenten pathway; when the road ahead seems too uncertain and we are afraid. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task. Jesus requires us to be willing to make the ultimate commitment of our whole lives and we hesitate and hold back. Draw us back to you, Lord. Give us confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others

through our own witness to your healing mercy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

Lenten Candle Liturgy

Three candles burning and midnight closes in.

Farthest from dusk, but closer to dawn.

Where do we turn to seek new light?

As light dies around us, let us strengthen the light within.

Response Kindle A Flame(X2) VU 19
Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away.

Fifth candle is extinguished

Five candles not burning, the world closes in

This world of distraction causes our inner light to dim.

As God's Holy Spirit brings comfort in strife,

The turmoil shall cease by bringing us peace and giving new life.

The Lord's Prayer VU 959

Time For All Ages

Hymn There Is Room For All (X2) MV 62
*There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.
And I rejoice and sing,
"My refuge and my rock in whom I trust."
There is room for all, there is room for all.*

Prayers of the People

***Hymn** God of the Bible MV 28
Minute for Mission

Offertory

***Dedication Verse** VU 542
*We give you but your own, whate'er the gifts may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.*

***Dedication Prayer (Unison)**

Giving God, in your love you gave us your Son, and in our response we give of ourselves, our time, our money, and our care. Use them to bring healing to a world full of so much pain. AMEN

Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

**Anthem
Message**

***Hymn** I heard the voice of Jesus say VU 626

***Commissioning (Unison)**

*We go into the unknown with the knowledge that God goes with us.
We go into the dark places with Christ to light our way.
We go to spread the Good News with the Holy Spirit as our strength.
AMEN*

***Benediction**

***Choral Closing** VU 422

*God be with you till we meet again.
Loving Councils guide uphold you.
With a shepherds care enfold you.
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, Till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet.
God be with you till we meet again.*

Postlude