

# *St. Paul's United Church*

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m. March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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

**Gathering Music:** Fantasia in C Minor Bach

## **We Gather in Community**

### 1-**\*Lenten Procession of Symbols**

2-**\*Introit:** Come Touch Our Hearts MV 12 vs 4

**Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,  
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;  
that we may rise to follow and to serve,  
steady now our nerve, come, touch and bless our wills.**

### 4-**\*Call to Worship (Responsive):**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Is anyone anxious?

**Let them come to the Lord and pray.**

Is anyone discouraged?

**Let them hear the word and find new vision.**

Is anyone weak?

**Let them come and be filled with the strength of the Spirit.**

Is anyone sorrowful?

**Let them come and be comforted by God's presence.**

Is anyone joyful?

**Let them come and sing God's praise!**

### 3-**Welcome & Announcements**

### 5-**Prayer of Approach & Lord's Prayer**

7-**\*Hymn of Praise:** Open my Eyes That I May See VU 371

**Children's Choir:** I've Got Peace Like a River

Arr. Anna L. Page

### 6-**Time for the Young at Heart**

## **We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit**

### 8-**Prayer of Confession (Unison):**

**Merciful God, we confess that we fail to question our own sightlessness. Being so sure that we "see," we miss the truths you would teach us. With the poultice of your love, cure this blindness. Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings, our own failures and our own faults. Make our "shadow side" known to us and help us to diminish it with the light of your grace. For it is only when we see ourselves clearly that we can worship you in**

truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### Assurance of God's Love

10-Sung Prayer of Illumination: Take, O Take Me As I Am MV 85

**Take, O take me as I am.**

**Summon out what I shall be,**

**set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

10-Scripture: Psalm 23 Dow Johnston

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

11-Anthem: I Will Arise Lovelace

Scripture: John 9:1-41 Rev. Richard

One: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

12-Message Seeking Transformation Rev. Richard

Moment For Community: St. Paul's Quilters Cathy Davis

13-\*Hymn of Praise: Are you a Shepherd? MV 126

### We Respond to the Spirit

#### 14-Invitation to Offering

Offertory Joyfully my Soul, Sing Praises Mendelssohn

\*Dedication Verse: In Gratitude and Humble Trust VU 544

**In gratitude and humble Trust we bring our best today**

**to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,**

**teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

#### \*Dedication Prayer (Unison):

**God of light and love and peace, we praise your name for leading us in paths of righteousness, that we may come into your presence, forgiven and free. We give you thanks for guiding us to this place: where we may rest beside the still waters of your grace, goodness, and mercy. We worship you with all that we are, and we bless your name for all that we will be as we continue on our journey of faith. We offer you these gifts, that you might bless them and send them out into the valley of the shadow of death, and everywhere in need of your light. Amen.**

#### 15-Prayers of the People

16-\*Hymn of Praise: My Soul Cries Out MV 120

#### 17-\*Blessing and Sending Forth (Responsive):

Go into the world, carrying the light of Christ into the darkness!

**We go, with hearts full and eyes open!**

Receive God's love and care, and share that love and care with others!

**We go, with eyes reflecting God's light and hands open to share it!**  
May you walk in the light of Christ all the days of your life!  
**We will follow Christ wherever he leads us! Amen!**

18-**\*Choral Closing:**                    Go Make a Difference                    MV 209 (vs 2)

**[Refrain]            Go make a dff'rence, we can make a diff'rence.**

**Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

**Go make a diff'rence we can make a diff'rence.**

**Go make a diff'rence 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 diff'rence in the world. [Refrain]**

**Ministry of Music:**

Tocatta in D minor

Devon

***We invite you to stay and enjoy the Ministry of Music***

# Announcements

<b>Greeters:</b>	March 19	Sadie Miller & Shirley MacLeod
<b>Ushers:</b>	Left Side	Dow Johnston & Roger Miller
	Middle	Isabel Green
	Right Side	Betty Fitzpatrick & Greg Morton
	Upstairs	Katie & Eric Lakes
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	April 2	Congregational Board

If you are an adult looking to join the church, we will be welcoming New Members on Easter Sunday. Contact the office or either of your ministers for more information.

**“Bring A Friend to Church”** is today! Join us following worship for a pot-luck lunch as we get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ better. The food is free, and the fellowship is priceless!

**Today in Sunday School:** The unit “Jesus Shows Love” concludes this Sunday with ‘Jesus Shows Love...In The Garden’. During March, the children learned how Jesus showed love to ten lepers, Zaccheus and at the Last Supper. Today’s lesson, set in The Garden of Gethemane, focuses on Jesus praying and accepting the will of God, showing love to his enemies, not violence and retaliation. Our Bible verse for March: ***‘I give you a new commandment: Love each other, just as I have loved you, so you must love each other.’*** John 13:34.

**UCW Spring Rally:** April 29th in Florenceville. Theme: Reaching Out With Purpose. Please watch for further details.

## **Grand or Baby Grand Piano Needed**

The piano in Fraser Memorial Hall has seen its better days and is beyond repair. If you have or know someone who has a Grand or Baby Grand Piano that could be gifted to St Paul's please contact Greg Morton 455-8179.

“My Canada” by Marguerite MacAlpine

I’m so proud of my country  
Land of democracy  
And yet so regal in inheritance  
A land so diverse in peoples and cultures  
A land stretching from sea to sea  
A land of such variety of seasons  
From glittering snow scrapes  
To crimson autumns  
And lush green summers  
A land flowing with milk and honey  
A land where people work hard  
With plenty of opportunities to succeed  
A sporting country with hockey, golfing and swimming  
Oh may the maple leaf flag  
Ever wave  
Over my country Canada  
Land of freedom and choices  
And happy multicultural peoples

**Concert:** The Bel Canto Singers with guests, the “Eliot Chorale” from Mount Allison will give a concert of all

Canadian Music at Wilmot United on Saturday, April 1st at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00

**UCW Bridge Luncheon:** Book your table now for our upcoming Bridge Luncheon. **Thursday, May 11th, at 12 noon.** At the Nashwaaksis United Church gym. Tables are \$40. Contact Connie at 472-4744