

# St. Paul's United Church

May 3rd, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

*Mission Statement: To glorify God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and serving others in Christ's name.*

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*'As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.*

-Mark 13:9-11

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Pastorale

Bancraft

### Greeting (Responsive):

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

**And also with you.**

### \* Lighting of the Christ Candle

\* Introit: **We are One** VU 402

**We are one as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips there's a sense that God is near.**

**We are one as we sing, as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.**

### Welcome & Announcements

#### Call to Worship (Responsive):

We are called to be the church!

**Not limited by walls of plaster or stone, the church is as wide as  
the arms in God's embrace, as long as the generations of  
followers reach out in faith.**

We are called to be the church!

**Bound together by the Word, we follow a path that is not always  
easy, but neither are we alone on the way.**

We are called to be the church!

**To worship God, divided by time and space but united in the Holy  
Spirit. Let us lift our voices in prayer and praise!**

Hymn:

**As A Fire In Meant for Burning**

VU 578

**As a fire is meant for burning  
with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission,  
giving glory to God's name.**

**Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations,  
finding neighbours everywhere.**

**We are learners; we are teachers;  
we are pilgrims on the way.**

**We are seekers; we are givers;  
we are vessels made of clay.**

**By our gentle, loving actions,  
we would show that Christ is light.**

**In a humble, listening Spirit,  
we would live to God's delight.**

**As a green bud in the springtime  
is the sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness  
'mid earth's peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens  
when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance  
of God's new and glorious dawn.**

### Prayer of the Day

**Illumination Verse: Hallelujah, Hallelujah** VU 179 (vs. 2)

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ.  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give praise to God's Name.**

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
Jesus has died and is risen.**

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ.  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give praise to God's Name.**

**Today's Scripture: Acts 17:1-9**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: Christ Has No Body Now But Yours MV 171

### Refrain

Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours.  
Here on this earth, yours is the work,  
To serve with the joy of compassion.

No hands but yours to heal a wounded world,  
No hands but yours to soothe all its suffering,  
No touch but yours to bind the broken hope of  
the people of God. R

No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,  
To find the lost, to gaze with compassion,  
No eyes but yours to glimpse the holy place of  
the city of God. R

No feet but yours to journey with the poor,  
To walk this world with mercy and justice,  
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace for  
the children of God. R

Through every gift, give back to those in need,  
As Christ was blessed, so now be a blessing,  
With every gift a benediction be to the people of God. R

Moment for Community:

Invitation to the Offering:

Offertory

Dedication Verse:

I'm gonna give, give, give of myself for Jesus, for Jesus.  
I'm gonna give, give, give of myself to serve the risen one!  
For whatever life might throw my way  
I'll serve you each and everyday!  
With all I am and all I'll ever be!

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

What you give to us, O God, is the gift of a glimpse into a world that wholly embraces your love. In Christ we see a way to share this life and ourselves with our kindred in this world, a way that can be the foundation of something stronger. In response to the many gifts you give us, O God, we give our very selves, all that we are in the building up of your kingdom of truth and love. Bless what we give and the path we are walking. This we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's prayer

## SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn: For All The Saints VU 705

For all the saints, who from their labours rest,  
all who by faith before the world confessed,  
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:  
you were their captain in the well-fought fight;  
you, in the darkness drear, the one true light.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one within your great design.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The golden evening brightens in the west,  
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:  
as God to glory calls them all away.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Commissioning (Responsive):

The way of our Lord lies before us.

**A way that will be difficult, but one that leads us to greater unity.**

The truth of the Word has been placed in our hearts.

**A truth that is hard to hear sometimes, but important to share.**

The life of Christ is a story to inspire our own lives.

**A life of sacrifice, teaching, learning, pain, and joy, of letting God's will be ours, and sharing God's love with all.**

Benediction

**Choral Closing:**

**We shall go out with hope in resurrection      VU 586 (vs 1)**

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of new life who sets us free.**