

St. Paul's United Church

November 29th, 2020 – 1st Sunday of Advent

Hope Sunday

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.

Centering Passage: *Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.' Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'*

-Luke 23:1-5

GATHERING TOGETHER

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.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

We come this day to begin a journey.

It is a journey of faith, of preparation, of Hope.

We enter into this time to be transformed.

We enter into this time to ready our hearts.

Let us open ourselves to a Hope that comes with Christ.

Let us worship our God together.

Prayer of the Day

Hymn: A Candle is Burning

VU 6

Wreath Lighting Liturgy:

God of Advent Hope, we gather here in this place, open to the ways that you touch our lives, aware of the moments that you help us on our journey, and thankful for the times that you show us the path to take as your people. Give us reason to be clear about our faith, and shine your light of hope and love upon us, we pray in Jesus' name. In silence, may we offer prayers that indicate our own needs this day, and into the future.

Silent confession

Even within the deepening shadows of this season the light of God

abounds. We are a pilgrim people we set out on journeys that lead to new insights and reveal new experiences, knowing that God will be with us wherever we go.

Let us not be discouraged.

Let us be open to the light.

Let us give thanks to God, now and always. Amen.

Today's Scripture: Daniel 6:6-23

This is the Word of our God.

Praise be to you, O Creator.

Message

Being the Spark

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Receive all that we have, all that we are, all that we will be. Bless what we give of our time, talent, and treasure. Bless us and guide us to be a part of building your kingdom of love today. We ask this and all things in the strong name of our brother and saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

My Soul Cries out

MV 120

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

Go now and bring hope to places where despair rules.

With Word we have been given we will go. We will scatter the gloom.

Be the spark that sets the fire of faith in your life and the lives around you.

With the light of Christ burning within us, we will share our faith with the world.

Benediction

Postlude

St. Paul's United Contact Information

Church Office phone number is 458-1183 **Email** is stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

Eric Hotte Church Manager is in the church Sunday through Thursday. The office would love to hear from you!

Reverend Richard email rev.bowley@outlook.com cell phone 262-2150 call anytime.

Etransfer is an easy way of giving wherever you are physically from your phone or computer, this helps to support the work and ministry of the church. **Etransfer Email** is stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com