

St. Paul's United Church

March 7th – 3rd Sunday of Lent

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.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Greeting (Responsive)

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.

Lighting Christ Candle:

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

From darkness and despair, from lost and lonely, God calls us home.

Even though we have been selfish and moved against God's plan, we are still called beloved.

How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

For all those times we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life which God offers to us.

Come, let us worship and be thankful. Amen

Opening Prayer

Interlude

Theme Conversation:

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

Lord Jesus, we confess that we have tried to justify ourselves in your sight by our hard work and our law-abiding ways. We have been resentful of the freedom of others and have been quick to pass judgement on others whose experience is different than ours. We have let our displeasure obstruct our vision of what we have and thus have failed to take pleasure in the good that we have and the joy of honest work. O Jesus, forgive us, and invite us to your banquet of grace. Other times Lord Jesus, we confess that we have run away from your love, seeking freedom over responsibility, trying to make it on our own,

according to shallow measures of success. When we are far from you and your will for us, forgive us, and let us come home to you. These things we pray in your name. Amen

Assurance of God's love

Today's Scripture: Luke 15:1-32

This is the Word of our God.

Praise be to you, O Creator.

Message

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission: Faith on the Move

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

If even one is lost, you seek it out, O Lord. Your holy table is not full until all are present, all are fed and all feel welcome in your communion. With open and willing hearts we make our offerings this day, those of time, talent and treasure bless them in the service of your table and vision for repentance and reconciliation throughout the world. Bless what we offer in your name. This we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

Come o fount of every blessing

VU559

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.

Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

We have been given a ministry of reconciliation.

God has reconciled us through the witness of Jesus Christ.

In this we find hope, purpose and direction.

**We are now ambassadors for Christ and God is making God's self known to the world through us
– in all we say, think and do.**

Go now to be a force for God's reconciling love, Go now to share God's amazing forgiveness and welcome 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!

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

Emergency Pastoral care for March it is Reverend Kay Clowater home 209 0055 cell 366 8094 and Reverend Ellen Beirsto 506-506-1943

Give thanks
TO THE **LORD**
FOR HE IS good:
HIS love ENDURES
forever.
PSALM 107:1