

St. Paul's United Church

April 25th – The Season 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.

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.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

When our hearts are open,

when our egos trust enough to be at rest,

when we invite the Divine into our lives,

not to do our bidding,

but to seek the ways of wisdom, She comes—

as breath, as fire, as inspiration, as calm stillness,

as disturbing holy presence...

Let us light our candle, let us open our hearts,

let us welcome Ruah, the Spirit of God.

Written by Juanita Austin, Gathering, Pentecost1 2016, p.27

Lighting Christ Candle:

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Triune God, we offer the prayers of our hearts to you this day. We know that your love for us is never-ending, and that you are with us always. Help us, God, to see you as you are: our loving parent. Help us to hear your Word and find in it a place of refuge. God, we may be wealthy in material things, but we know that our true wealth is in your love for us. Help us once again, God, to be your faithful people, as we journey through this life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Written by Allister Rose, Gathering, Pentecost1 2016, p.27

Hymn:

Spirit, Open My Heart

MV 79

Spirit, open my heart to the joy
and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in
giving, Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.

All my coldness and fear to
your grace I now surrender.

Spirit, open my heart to the joy
and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in
giving, Spirit, open my heart.

Write your love upon my heart as my law,
my goal, my story.

In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory.

Spirit, open my heart to the joy
and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in
giving, Spirit, open my heart.

May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.

In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another.

Spirit, open my heart to the joy
and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in
giving, Spirit, open my heart.

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Holy One, Let us hear your word for us in the reading from John's gospel. And, having heard may we choose to act in faith.

Today's Scripture: John 1: 35-46

This is the Word of our God.

Praise be to you, O Creator.

Message The Discipleship Journey: Answering the Call

Anthem

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

We are embraced by God who loves us.

We are made whole by Christ who heals us.

We are set free by the Holy Spirit who empowers us.

We offer all we have and even our very selves.

Thanks be to God, who works great things in us.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

Will You Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.

In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

VU 567

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive)

And now in the future we go,
may God's holy name be praised!

Remembering how God has helped us,
committed to share in Christ's ministry of helping one another.

Sailing on the winds of the Spirit into the world,
We go thankful for a faith that calls us and leads us.

Amen.

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 **April** it is Reverend Nathan Wright 292-6361 revnathan@naswaaksisunited.ca

