

# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

*A spiritual hub for  
creativity, discovery and growth*



**Sunday, July 7, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Seventh after Pentecost**

Minister  
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**St. Paul's United Church, Perth**  
**Sunday July 7, 2024**  
**The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

✠ *invites us to rise in body or spirit*



**God Calls Us Together**

Lighting the Christ, Affirm and Prayer Candles

One: We light the Christ candle as a sign that Christ's Spirit alights us all:

All: **this day, this moment, and every moment.**

One: We light the Affirm candle to remind us to be a place of belonging and acceptance,

All: **to learn and grow together in love that protects and celebrates and uplifts.**

One: The Prayer candle reminds us to hold one another in prayer:

All: **to raise prayers of thanks and concern for one another, and any in need.**

Gathering Song: Chorus "Open our Hearts" MV 21

**Open our hearts, open our minds  
 Open our lives to you O loving God  
 Open our hearts.**

All Our Relations: "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren"

All God's Children (Affirming Statement)

Life of the Community

Piano Prelude: Praise the King! - Giardini, arr. by Schram

Gathering Words:

One: Jesus said: Love one another.

All: **We come to worship God who is love and to learn to love one another.**

One: Jesus said: No longer do I call you servants; now I call you friends.

All: **We come to worship God, whose friends we are in Jesus.**

One: Let us sing praise to God,

All: **and live in love and friendship.**

✠ Hymn: "God, Whose Almighty Word" VU 313

**1 God, whose almighty word  
 chaos and darkness heard,  
 and took their flight,**

hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

- 2 Jesus, who came to bring  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,  
health to the troubled mind,  
sight to the Spirit-blind,  
O now to humankind  
let there be light.
- 3 Spirit of truth and love,  
lifegiving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;  
move on the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.
- 4 Blessed and holy three,  
glorious trinity,  
wisdom, love, might,  
boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world far and wide,  
let there be light.

Gathering Prayer (*all*):

Eternal God,  
you are the light of the minds that know you,  
the joy of the hearts that love you,  
and the strength of the wills that serve you;  
grant us so to know you that we may truly love you,  
and so to love you that we may fully serve you,  
whose service is perfect freedom,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer by St. Augustine (354-430)

Children & Youth Time

The Prayer of Jesus (VU 959 – Sung)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil,  
 for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
 now and for ever.**

## **We Listen for God's Word**

From the Gospels: St. Mark 5: 21-43

*Anne Bolton*

<sup>21-24</sup> After Jesus crossed over by boat, a large crowd met him at the seaside. One of the meeting-place leaders named Jairus came. When he saw Jesus, he fell to his knees, beside himself as he begged, "My dear daughter is at death's door. Come and lay hands on her so she will get well and live." Jesus went with him, the whole crowd tagging along, pushing and jostling him.

<sup>25-29</sup> A woman who had suffered a condition of hemorrhaging for twelve years—a long succession of physicians had treated her, and treated her badly, taking all her money and leaving her worse off than before—had heard about Jesus. She slipped in from behind and touched his robe. She was thinking to herself, "If I can put a finger on his robe, I can get well." The moment she did it, the flow of blood dried up. She could feel the change and knew her plague was over and done with.

<sup>30</sup> At the same moment, Jesus felt energy discharging from him. He turned around to the crowd and asked, "Who touched my robe?"

<sup>31</sup> His disciples said, "What are you talking about? With this crowd pushing and jostling you, you're asking, 'Who touched me?' Dozens have touched you!"

<sup>32-33</sup> But he went on asking, looking around to see who had done it. The woman, knowing what had happened, knowing she was the one, stepped up in fear and trembling, knelt before him, and gave him the whole story.

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to her, "Daughter, you took a risk of faith, and now you're healed and whole. Live well, live blessed! Be healed of your plague."

\* \* \*

<sup>35</sup> While he was still talking, some people came from the leader's house and told him, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher any more?"

<sup>36</sup> Jesus overheard what they were talking about and said to the leader, “Don’t listen to them; just trust me.”

<sup>37-40</sup> He permitted no one to go in with him except Peter, James, and John. They entered the leader’s house and pushed their way through the gossips looking for a story and neighbors bringing in casseroles. Jesus was abrupt: “Why all this busybody grief and gossip? This child isn’t dead; she’s sleeping.” Provoked to sarcasm, they told him he didn’t know what he was talking about.

<sup>40-43</sup> But when he had sent them all out, he took the child’s father and mother, along with his companions, and entered the child’s room. He clasped the girl’s hand and said, “*Talitha koum*,” which means, “Little girl, get up.” At that, she was up and walking around! This girl was twelve years of age. They, of course, were all beside themselves with joy. He gave them strict orders that no one was to know what had taken place in that room. Then he said, “Give her something to eat.”

For the wisdom that guides us, the word that inspires us  
and the truth that enlightens us. **We praise you, O God.**

Sermon:

***“The Deep Heart of the Gospel”***

Rev. McLean

☩ Hymn: “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds” VU 344

- 1     **How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear!  
It soothes the sorrows, heals the wounds,  
and drives away all fear.**
- 2     **It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary, rest.**
- 3     **Dear Name! the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treasury, filled  
with boundless stores of grace.**
- 4     **Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,  
my Prophet, Priest, and King,  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
accept the praise I bring.**
- 5     **The effort of my heart is weak,  
and cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see you whom I seek,  
I'll praise you as I ought.**

## We Respond to God

Community Prayers

Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Hymn

VU 540

***Grant us God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free;  
that ourselves and all our living,  
we may offer faithfully.***

Prayer of Dedication (all)

**Gracious and healing God: We bless you for the mystery of life and death and renewed life, for the power of prayer, for questions of the heart, for the gift of beauty, for loveliness and liveliness. Accept the gifts we return to you by envelope, through PAR and in other ways. May your church use them faithfully in love for your world. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## God Sends Us to Be the Church in the World

☩ Hymn: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" VU 681

- 1    **Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear your words of life again.**
- 2    **In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
on shadowed thresholds, dark with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
we catch the vision of your tears.**
- 3    **The cup of water given for you  
still holds the freshness of your grace;  
yet long these multitudes to view  
the strong compassion of your face.**
- 4    **O Jesus, from the mountain side,  
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide,  
and tread the city's streets again,**
- 5    **till all the world shall learn your love  
and follow where your feet have trod,  
till glorious from your heaven above  
shall come the city of our God.**

☩ The Blessing

☩ Sung Blessing: "When You Go From this Place"

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**When you go from this place be true.**

**May the blessing of life find you.**

**May the winds of the Spirit guide you,  
'cross the ocean of all your days.**

**May the seeds of your love - your life  
a-dorn the Way.**

**A-dorn the Way.**

**A-dorn the Way.**

Organ Postlude: Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life - Gardiner, arr. by Sadowski