

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

REV. DR. PAUL G. CURRIE

"THE UNKNOWN GOD AND THE FAMILY OF FAITH "

COVID PRECAUTIONS

1. Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
2. Masking is encouraged but no longer mandatory.
Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Contemplation - John E. West

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The lands on which we are gathering today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of the Huron-Wendat, Metis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

The Land Acknowledgment in the Bulletin today was composed by our Joint Truth and Reconciliation Group with input from members of Chalmers, Sydenham Street and Faith United Churches. Bruce Elliott is the current Chalmers representative on JTRAG.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We light this candle to remind us that Christ is the light of the world and present in our midst.

All: May the life and words of Jesus enlighten us on our way.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 66: 1 - 4 (*responsive*)

VU 784

Refrain:

Choir: God of all, to you we raise this our song of joyful praise.

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**All: sing to the honour of God's name;
make glorious the praise of God.**

One: How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your strength, your foes wilt before you.

**All: For all the world shall worship you,
shall sing to you and praise your name. R**

Refrain 2: 1838, Konrad Koche

CENTERING PRAYER

All: We give you all thanks and praise, O God.
The world and everything in it was made by you.
Life and breath are your gifts to all mortal things,
and in you we live and move and have our being.
Everywhere and always you have been within our reach
and have inspired us to search for you.
In Jesus the Christ you have shown yourself to us,
the unknowable revealed in the known.
Therefore, with our hearts lifted high,
we offer you thanks and praise at all times
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN **VU 268** *Bring Many Names*

- 1 Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God:
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!
- 2 Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!
- 3 Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!
- 4 Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!
- 5 Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!
- 6 Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy One, Sacred Mystery,
greater than words can express; whose love for us and all
creation exceeds our capacity to imagine, open our hearts and
minds. Amen.

READING

Acts 17: 22 -31

NRSV

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 623 *Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design*

- 1 Dear weaver of our lives' design
Whose patterns all obey,
With skillful fingers gentle guide
The sturdy threads that will survive
The tangle of our days,
The tangle of our days.
- 2 Take up the fabric of our lives
With hands that gently hold;
Bind in the ragged edge that care
Would sunder and that pain would tear,
And mend our ravelling souls,
And mend our ravelling souls.
- 3 Let eyes that in the plainest cloth
A hidden beauty see
Discern in us our richest hues,
Show us the patterns we may use
To set our spirits free,
To set our spirits free.

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SERMON

Rev. Dr. Paul G. Currie

The Unknown God and the Family of Faith

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE
OFFERING AND OFFERTORY DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 543 *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

1 We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Words: William Walsham How 1858, alt. Music: Johann Balthasar Koenig 1738,
adapt. William Henry Havergal 1847 Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*sung*)

VU page 959

All: 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 forever.

Music: David Haas 1986 © G.I.A. Pub. Inc.
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HYMN VU 232 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You*

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive our fear and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2 All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.

3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music lifts us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Words: Henry Van Dyke 1897, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824, adapt. Edward
Hodges 1864, desc. Hal Hopson 1979 ©desc. 1979 GIA Pub.
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COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

When you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care

Words: Linnea Good (1991) from *Greatest of These*;
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POSTLUDE

Sarabande in d minor - G.F. Handel

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Rev. Dr. Paul G. Currie Paul is no stranger to the Chalmers Community. His roots here go back to singing in the Bass Section of the Choir in the seventies. His calling in ministry has included both St. Matthews and Edith Rankin Memorial here in Kingston, along with pastorates in Manitoba and elsewhere in Ontario. Paul resides in Bath with his wife Debbie.

Co-Liturgist	Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Hymn Singers	Members of Chalmers Choir
Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung
Refreshments	Heather Faris
Counters	Murray Anderson, Nick Steinberg

After the service:

you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship.

For Mother's Day

With gratitude for the wonderful mothers in our lives,
and for their teaching and their faith.
Their wisdom is passed on through the generations
and is reflected in love for the earth and all God's creatures.

In memory of

*Ethel MacLean and
Jean MacLean*

with love from Doug and their family.





To submit materials for the bulletin please use:
bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com and Linda Steinberg
hpsesp14@gmail.com.

Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the following Sunday.

At 10:30 join us in person at Chalmers or watch live-streamed on Chalmers' YouTube channel. The service will also be posted later to the same channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be found on the home page of the Chalmers website
www.chalmersunitedchurch.org

After the service, you are invited to share refreshments and conversation.

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