

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17, 2023

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

REV. DR. PAUL G. CURRIE

"LIVING, IN THE LOVE OF GOD"

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 not 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

Prelude op. 21, no. 7 - Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)

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.

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

One: Listening God, we come to you in our needs. In all honesty and sincerity we seek your blessing.

All: Compassionate God, show us once again your love and mercy in ways we can understand.

One: Faithful God, we have been tested and tried, yet, we are conscious of your nearness day and night.

CENTERING PRAYER

from Psalm 17: 1-8

One: We call upon you, for you will answer us, O God; incline your ear to us; hear our words. From you let our freedom come; let your eyes see the right.

All: **If you test our hearts, if you visit us by night, you will find no wickedness in us; our mouths do not transgress.**

One: Our steps have held fast to your paths; our feet have not slipped.

All: **Wondrously show your steadfast love, O Saviour of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand. Guard us as the apple of the eye. Amen.**

HYMN **VU 218** *We Praise you, O God*

1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Words: Julia Cory 1902 alt. Music: Netherlands melody1626, harm. Edward Kremser 1877, desc. Scott Withrow 1980 © G.I.A. Pub. Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

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

Matthew 14: 13 - 21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 659 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Christ, whose voice the waters heard,
and hushed their raging at thy word,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bade its angry tumult cease,
and gave for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 4 O Trinity of love and power,
all travellers guard in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go:
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Words: William Whiting 1860 alt. Music: John Bacchus Dykes 1861
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SERMON

Rev. Dr. Paul G. Currie

Living, in the Love of God

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 540 *Grant Us, God, the Grace*

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

Words: anonymous Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmody ASacra1713, adapt.
Henry John Gauntlett 1861
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PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

HYMN VU 220 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

- 1** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near, joining in glad adoration.
- 2** Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
how all you needed has been met by God's gracious ordaining?
- 3** Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do, who out of love will befriend us.

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from God's people again: gladly with praise
we adore him.

Words: Joachim Neander 1680, Eng. Trans. Catherine Winkworth 1863 et al
Music: Stralsund Gesangbuch 1665, desc. Craig Sellar Lang 1964
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COMMISSIONING

In the words of the late Dag Hammarskjöld,
Secretary General of the UN in the last century:

All: Give us pure hearts
that we may see you;
humble hearts,
that we may hear you;
hearts of love,
that we may serve you;
hearts of faith,
that we may abide in you.

BENEDICTION

HYMN VU 967 *Threefold Amen*
All: Amen, Amen, Amen.

POSTLUDE

Allegro moderato - W. Warder Harvey (1861-1939)

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.

Reader Margot Craft

Co-Liturgist Linda Steinberg

Organist Juliet Milsome

Media Techs Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

Refreshments Heather Faris, Margot Craft

Counters Murray Anderson, Jan Trites

After the service you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship in MacCallum Hall.



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/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwjzP2Q>

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.

Chalmers United Church

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