

**St. Paul's United Church
100 Years Celebration Service
October 5th, 2025
Holy Communion with General Secretary, Rev. Michael Blair**

Prelude: TLUS 138 Let's Go Together (Welcome)

1. Let's go together for a while,
And ask where we begin
To build a world where love can grow,
And hope can enter in,
To be the hands of healing,
And to plant the seed of peace,

Refrain:

**Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome, the love of God to share,
'Cause all of us are welcome here;
All are welcome in this place.**

2. Let's talk together of a time
When we will share a feast,
To pride and power kneel to serve
The lonely and the least,
And joy will set the table
And we join our hands to pray, **Refrain**

3. Let's dream together of the day
When earth and heav'n are one,
A city built of love and light,
The new Jerusalem,
Where mourning turns to dancing,
Ev'ry creature lifts its voice, **Refrain**

Welcome:

Pass the peace, Hold Somebody

Hold somebody, tell them that you love them
Lift your hands together and praise the Lord.

Acknowledgement of the Land:

Christ Candle & Affirming Candle

There was a man named Jesus who said,
"I am the light of the world."

We light the Christ Candle, a sign and symbol that Christ is among us.

The flame reminds us of the light that has guided the church through 100 years of ministry—through seasons of change, challenge, and hope.

As we step into the future, we carry this light with us, trusting that Christ's presence will continue to guide, inspire, and send us out to be love in the world.

We also light the Affirming Candle.

Its flame reminds us that the future of the church is wide and welcoming, where every person is valued as a beloved child of God.

In the spirit of being an Affirming Church, we pledge ourselves again to justice, inclusion, and love without boundaries.

May this candle burn brightly, calling us to live into a future where God's love shines through us for all people.

Call to worship:

Come, people of God—young and old, dreamers and doers!

The Spirit is poured out on all flesh, calling us to new visions.

**Sons and daughters, young and old alike,
we will dream dreams, see visions, and follow God's leading!**

We celebrate a Church that has journeyed for a hundred years,
and we look forward with hope and trust,
ready to step boldly into the future God is shaping.

**Today we lift our hearts and voices,
for God is still speaking, still moving, still dreaming with us!**

Come, Thunder Bay and Murillo, Lappe and Rosslyn,
Nipigon and Kakabeka and beyond—come!

**Let us rejoice in the God of dreams and visions,
the One who leads us into tomorrow!**

Opening Prayer: *(In Unison)*

Rev Lionel Ketola

God of hope,

you have inspired every generation with your Spirit—

our hearts awoken to new possibilities,

and our minds are opened to your dreams.

We celebrate not only the faithfulness of the past,

but the promise of your Spirit for the future.

Guide us into new dreams for your Church.

Inspire us with visions of bold love and daring justice,

and fill us with courage to follow where you lead.

Bless us as we gather this day.

May we joyfully step into the years ahead,

trusting that your vibrant Spirit is moving among us still.

Amen.

Hymn: TLUS 35 Bless the Lord, O My Soul *(10,000 Reasons)*

Refrain:

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul,

Worship your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul;

I'll worship your holy name.

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;

It's time to sing your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. **Refrain.**

2. You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. **Refrain.**

3. And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still, my soul will sing your praise unending
Then thousand years and then forever more! **Refrain**

Prayer of Confession:

Assurance: TLUS 78 Trust These Words

Trust these words: you are forgiven!
Through Christ's mercy, broken hearts can be restored;
Trust these words; you are forgiven!
Live in peace, beloved, know you are adored;
Trust these words, trust these words,
Trust these words.

Trust these words: we are forgiven!
Through God's mercy broken lives can be restored;
Trust these words: we are forgiven!
Live in grace and peace, oh, love and serve the Lord;
Trust these words, trust these words,
Trust these words. Trust these words.

Trinity Youth Choir: The Love Round

Time with Children and Youth / Young Adults:

Prayer for Illumination:

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 43: 18 – 21

Acts 2:17

In these sacred words of the past, let us hear your spirit anew.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem: My Lighthouse

Reflection: General Secretary Rev Michael Blair

Hymn: Sing a New Church into Being (tune VU 559)

1.Summoned by the God who made us, Rich in our diversity;
Gathered in the Name of Jesus, Richer still in unity.
Let us bring the gifts that differ And in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being,
One in Faith and Love and Praise.

2.Radiant, risen from the water, Robed in holiness and light,
Male and female in God's image, Male and female, God's delight.
Let us bring the gifts that differ And in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, One in Faith and Love and Praise.

3.Trust the Goodness of creation: Trust the Spirit strong within.
Dare to dream the vision promised, Sprung from seed of what has been.
Let us bring the gifts that differ And in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, One in Faith and Love and Praise.

4.Bring the hopes of every nation; Bring the art of every race.
Weave a song of peace and justice; Let it sound through time and space.
Let us bring the gifts that differ And in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, One in Faith and Love and Praise.

5.Draw together at one table, All the human family;
Shape a circle ever wider And a people ever free.
Let us bring the gifts that differ And in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, One in Faith and Love and Praise.

Prayers of the people: Youth

Sung Response: TLUS 99 I am Sending You Light (*refrain*)

I am sending you light to heal you, to hold you.

I am sending you light to hold you in love.

I am sending you light to heal you, to hold you.

I am sending you light to hold you in love.

Invitation to Holy Communion:

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you;

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sung Response: MV 206

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Sung Response: MV 207

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer:

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, the power, and the glory
Forever and ever. Amen

The Story of the Last Supper**Sharing Communion****TLUS 23 For Everyone Born**

1. For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread,
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead.

2. For all who share life, a place at the table
Revising the roles, deciding the share,
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
For all who share life, a system that's fair.

Refrain:

And God will delight when we are creators of justice

And joy, compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,

Justice and joy!

3. For those we neglect, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,

For those we neglect, the right to belong

4. For all who have breath, a place at the table,
A covenant shared, a welcoming space,
A rainbow of race and gender and colour,
For all who have breath, the chalice of grace. **Refrain**

5. For you and for me, a place at the table,
Though wounded and sore, with need to forgive,
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
For you and for me, a new way to live.

6. For everyone born, a place at the table,
To live without fear, and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
For everyone born, the right to be free. **Refrain**

Prayer after Communion

Invitation to the Offering:

Piano Offertory: Way Maker (*Sandy Parisi*)

Offertory Response: (*to the tune of VU 541- words by Steven Loweth*)

**Praise God for gifts that hands have shared,
For love that heals and hope declared;
Through rainbow grace and justice true,
We give our thanks for lives made new.**

Prayer of Dedication:

Hymn: VU 481 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
To work for the kingdom and answer its call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Commissioning and Benediction: General *Secretary* Rev Michael Blair

Sending Forth: Go Now in Peace *Price/Besig*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen, amen, amen.

Organ/Pian Duet Postlude: Joyful, Joyful *Joel Raney*