



First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2017 10:00am

* Please stand if able
Congregational responses in **bold**

Sunday December 3, 2017

10:00am

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church
and to our service today - we are happy that you have come!

Sunday Morning Nursery
Toys and other nursery items are available during the service

Sunday School children start with their parents and leave partway
through the service for Sunday School

Washrooms are located off the atrium

Two accessible entrances to St Paul's. One is on Main Street via the
atrium, with the elevator located just inside the entrance. Best
parking to use for this entrance is the town lot west of the church,
with two handicapped parking spots.
The second accessible entrance is via the ramp off our parking lot,
with two handicapped parking spots in the parking lot.

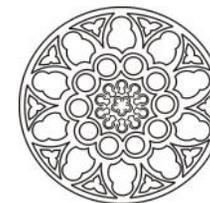
We invite you to pick up informational brochures in the atrium.
Please introduce yourself to one of the hosts; we would be most
happy to help you. **Visitors and guests are encouraged to sign**
the Guest Book located in the atrium. We hope you will stay after
worship for conversation and refreshments!

Participating this morning

Worship Leadership: Rev. John Ambrose
Message: Adam Cresswell
Music Director: Don Cassano
Piano: Dawn Brodie
Guitar: Scott Marsh
Sanctuary Sound Team: Brent and Karen Tyrer
Greeters: Joanne Dundass, Valrie Ewan, Karen Tyrer
Candlelighter: Myra Hudspeth
Offering: Joanne Dundass, Valrie Ewan, Karen Tyrer and Wendy Hodgkins
Fellowship Time: Hélène Ellison, Mary McDuffe and Mary Ellen Lee
Baker's Dozen: Judy Rye and Hélène Ellison
Count Team: Graham and Anne Troake, Diane Patterson

**Large print bulletins available -
please ask one of our ushers**

*On this First Sunday of Advent we begin our journey to Christmas.
The word 'advent' means 'coming' or arrival'. Advent looks forward
to the anniversary of the coming or arrival of Jesus in Bethlehem.*
The colour for Advent is purple.



We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering in Worship *said responsively*

God be with you.

And also with you.

The season of Advent has begun. It is a time of waiting,

waiting for the moment

when we can welcome the Child,

to accept his new life among us,

and to behold God's love in human form,

born into the family of God.

Music

I Surrender

The riches of this world will fade
The treasures of our God remain
Here I empty myself to owe this world
Nothing and find everything in You

I surrender, I surrender
I surrender all to You

Take my life, a sacrifice
In You alone I'm satisfied
Here I empty myself to owe this world
Nothing and find everything in You

I surrender, I surrender
I surrender all to You
I surrender, I surrender
I surrender all to You

Not my will, but Yours be done
Not my strength, but Yours alone
Nothing else, but You oh Lord
I find everything in You

I surrender, I surrender
I surrender all to You
I surrender, I surrender
I surrender all to You

Lord's Prayer

We Go In God's Name

* Closing Hymn

Open Wide Your Heavens! *Tune: VU #55*

Open wide your heavens! Let your name be known!
So the world will know, Lord, we are not alone.
You who once did awesome deeds —
show your presence here!
Open wide your heavens! Let us know you're near.

In this Advent season, Lord, we wait and pray:
Why do you seem hidden? Are you far away?
Though your faithfulness is sure,
we have often sinned;
Like the leaves we're fading, carried by the wind.

Carried by our culture, we seek more and more;
As we long to prosper, we forget the poor.
As we yearn for earthly things, we forget your name.
Open wide your heavens! Make us whole again.

Lord, you are the potter; we are simply clay.
Take the lives we offer; mold us more each day.
In this holy Advent time, show us all anew:
You reach out and bless us, when we wait for you.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

* Benediction

* Choral Response

VU 431

Sing Amen: Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Sing Amen: Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Sing Amen: Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!

Amen, we praise your name, O God! *(Repeat)*

South African

Exchange of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Postlude

Announcements - December 3, 2017

We welcome to our church family today through baptism the following children:

Amelia Louise Allan, daughter of Mark and Catherine Allan, sister of Jonathan, Audrey and Eve

Rowan Amelia Doty, daughter of Scott and Maha Doty

Jordan Kwai Maurice, son of Christine and Vaughn Maurice, brother of Maya

Ryker Christopher Middleton, son of Christopher and Rachel Middleton, brother of Ellia

Your 2018 church envelopes are now available for pickup in the atrium.

Come to St Paul's United Church at 10:00am Sunday December 10 for **Go Sing It on the Mountain**, an engaging Christmas Cantata performed by St Paul's Choir, led by Don Cassano and accompanied by Dawn Brodie. Composer Pepper Choplin has woven beloved carols and well known traditional tunes. Be enthralled by the beautiful piano accompaniment, accented by flute and banjo, and leave with the Christmas story resonating in your ears.

Christmas Pageant. Mark your calendars to attend the annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant this year. Join us on Sunday December 17 at 10:00am for 'The Early Show- St. Paul's Special 'Joy' Edition' hosted and presented by our Sunday School. Learn more about the Christmas story from Mary and Joseph's perspective as Mary and Joseph make a special guest appearance on The Early Show, along with other important characters and musical guests!! If your child plans to be a part of the pageant they will need to attend practices held during Sunday School on November 26, December 3 and 10. Volunteers are needed to help facilitate the practices, help with audio visual components and to contribute to props and costumes. If you have any questions or would like to help out, please contact Kim Wenger at kim.wenger12@gmail.com. Thanks!

Calling all St Paul's Youth Grades 5-12! Meeting today! Adam is leading Youth Group! Food, Fun and Faith will all be part of every gathering! Youth Group will run every other Sunday after church from 11:30am-1:00pm until Christmas - meeting today and then on December 17. Parents can email Adam at adam.cresswell1@gmail.com to let him know if their kid is attending!

Volunteers Needed for The Annex. A GIANT sign-up sheet will be available at the service this week. You can't miss it :) Please consider how you can be a part of the Annex magic!

Deadline for weekly bulletin announcements—Wednesdays at 4:00pm in the office

Adult Faith Study Group. Continuing until December 11, Adam Cresswell is leading an Adult Faith Study Group, open to any and all adults who would like to take part! Each week we watch a short film on a topic related to God and the life of faith, and then discuss the topic together over coffee, tea and light snacks.. We are taking part in a video bible study by prominent, well respected Christian author Max Lucado. The Series is called "**Max on Life**". We ask interested parties to phone or email the church office to register so we may have a sense of the number of attendees.

A special shout out to those that can **help on Christmas Eve at the 4:00pm family service.** We would love to show our Christmas Eve visiting families the magic of the Annex and are looking for greeters, bakers, and beverage specialists (non-alcoholic of course). If you are able to come early or stay a little after, please speak with Lesley or see our GIANT sign-up sheet at the service.

Givings. We have been asked how to support our church while you are away this winter. You may want to consider going on PAR or providing post dated cheques so that your givings will continue during your absence. If you require more information, please contact the office or the treasurer.

For the Sunday School to continue to grow and meet the needs of the youngest members of our congregation, the Sunday School is looking for one more teacher that can help teach our kids approximately two Sundays a month. We currently have three dedicated teachers but a fourth would allow for the middle school group to run more consistently and the kids to have more age appropriate activities to encourage their spiritual growth at the church. It also would allow the current teachers some time to attend church themselves. If you are interested or have questions please contact Kim Wenger at kim.wenger12@gmail.com.

On the Way to Bethlehem, Last day is Sunday December 3, 6:30-8:30pm at Country Heritage Park, telling the Christmas story in an outdoor, living pageant. Admission is \$5 for those 13 and older, 6-12 is \$2, under 6 are free. A project of Milton Area Christian Churches Working Together. More information at onthewaytobethlehem.com.

Ongoing Activities

All are welcome to join in any of the following activities.
If you need more information, 905.878.8895 x. 21 or info@stpaulsmilton.com

Sundays

Worship (The Annex & Sanctuary or combined) at 10:00am,
fellowship time follows the services

Sunday School during the services

Friday Morning Coffee - every Friday at 10:15am - all welcome!
United Church Women (UCW) - second Wed monthly, Sept-June, 1:30pm

Coming Up

Mon Dec 4	7:30-9:00pm	Adult Faith Study	Sanctuary
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St. Paul's United Church
123 Main Street East, Milton, Ontario L9T 1N4
905.878.8895 info@stpaulsmilton.com
stpaulsmilton.com

The Staff of St. Paul's

Interim Minister: Reverend John Ambrose
jambro@sympatico.ca

Music Director: Don Cassano
dcassano@stpaulsmilton.com

Church Administrator: Cindy Allin
info@stpaulsmilton.com

Upcoming Worship

December 10 at 10:00am

Worship in the sanctuary

Cantata 'Go Sing it on the Mountain' by Pepper Choplin

Worship Leader: Reverend John Ambrose

Worship in the Annex in the main level hall

Worship Leader: Adam Cresswell

Sunday School for kids during worship

Fellowship time follows the services

December 17 - Advent 3, Sunday School Pageant

'The Early Show- St. Paul's Special 'Joy' Edition' in a combined service

December 24

Advent 4, one service in the sanctuary at 10:00am, Brass Ensemble

Christmas Eve family service at 4:00pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion service at 9:00pm

December 31, Café Noel, one service at 10:00am in the hall

Check out our website for information & updates:

stpaulsmilton.com

Music License CCLI # 2223542

Office Hours for Reverend John Ambrose

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00am to 1:00pm

Office Phone: 905.878.8895 x. 24 Emergency Pastoral Care: 905.826.2831

Main Office Hours:

*Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm, closed noon to 1:00pm for lunch
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am to 1:00pm*

Please remember St Paul's is a perfume free and nut free environment