

St. Paul's United Church

September 13th, 2026

Theme: Recognizing our Creation Kin-ship

Land Acknowledgement:

We gather with respect, recognizing we are on the traditional and treaty lands of the Anishinabek and Haudenosaunee peoples. This place is also connected to the histories of the Erie, Neutral, Wendat and Mississauga peoples.

We are called to care for these lands and waters through actions rooted in deep respect—for the earth and for each other—as an active part of our journey toward reconciliation.

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude: “Soon and Very Soon”

Andrew Crouch, arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship:

In the rustling of leaves, in the grand diversity of trees,
God speaks.

**God broods in the early morning mist,
and in the river's current God flows.**

God bounds with the deer and
watches with the great blue heron.

**God is in the wondering silence of the nights
and the shortening days.**

In the rhythm of every heart God's love echoes
**and calls us to recognize our Creation Kin-ship.
Let us worship God!**

Opening Hymn: V.U. #296 “This Is God's Wondrous World”

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Opening Prayer:

Creator God,

**Help us to appreciate the beauty and
promise of all things sacred.**

**Remind us that we do not own
the glimpses of beauty that we experience,
above the earth or below the waters.**

Open us to the wisdom that Creation teaches.

**And bind us to Creation's story,
so that we may together celebrate, nurture,
and fight for our global community,
and cherish your beauty through our words and
actions wherever we find it. Amen.**

(Written by Alydia Smith)

Hymn: TLUS 2 “A Strand in the Web of Life”

(please see insert)

Celebration time with the young at heart

A Conversation with Robbie the Dragon

(Inspired by Dragon Talks by James Lepard)

Musical Offering: “With Verdure Clad”

from The Creation – F.J. Haydn Lara Housez, Soprano

Scripture: Genesis 2: 8-9 Isaiah 55: 12-56:2

Matthew 13: 31-32 Matthew 27: 31-36

Revelation 22: 1-12

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Thoughts for Living: “How to Love a Tree”

Hymn: “Trees” Tune: DIX V.U. #81 *(please see insert)*

(Words by Michael Morgan and Conrad Kocker)

Musical Offering:

“There Is So Much Work for Love to Do”

– Cynthia Gray Joyful Voices and Chancel Choir

Invitation to Offering

Sung Offertory: V.U. #543

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Offering Prayer**Prayers of the People****The Lord’s Prayer**

Closing Hymn: V.U. #884 “You Shall Go Out with Joy”

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Benediction: “May You Run and Not be Weary”

Postlude: “Rondo in D” – Martin Ellis

Lead Minister: Rev. Donalee Williams
Minister of Music: Fredric DeVries
Pastoral Care Minister: Rev. John Adeyemi
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Merrill Graham
Office Administrator: Sarah French
Caretaker: Gisell Arevalo
Coordinator of Youth and

Young Families Programming: Porscha Hewitt
Tech Team Coordinator: Luke Alsop

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