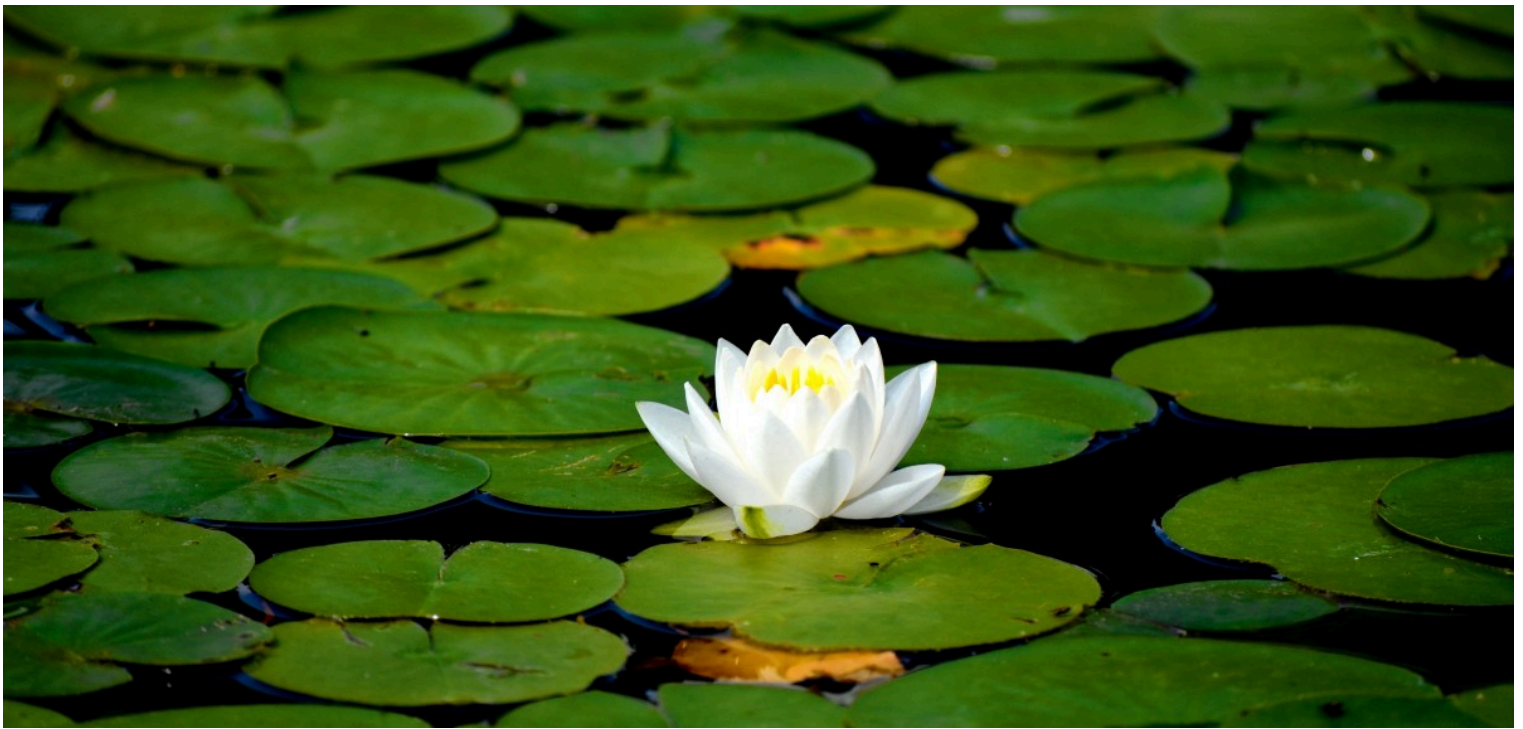




TRINITY ST. PAUL'S 
UNITED CHURCH
FAITH JUSTICE ARTS

July 26, 2026
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Joint Contemplative Worship

WE GATHER

Seeking a wise and discerning heart.

Introit: *God Understands*, composed by Robert Nathaniel Dett, setting a poem by Katrina Trask (Soprano Solo: May Sadan)

Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory

Martha Davis

As summer invites us to slow our pace and notice the beauty around us, we remember that this sacred land has long been home to the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Mississaugas of the Credit.

May the warmth of this season deepen our gratitude for the earth, strengthen our commitment to right relationship with Indigenous Peoples, and teach us to walk gently upon this holy ground.

Words of Welcome

Rev. Emily Gordon

Surely God is in this place.

Help me notice. Help us notice together.

Pause and breathe

Silence - 30 seconds

Lighting of the Christ & Community Candles

Martha Davis

As the summer sun fills the day with light, we kindle these candles.
The Christ candle reminds us that God's peace shines in every season.
The community candle reminds us that together we are called to be a light of hope, kindness, and welcome.

May these flames warm our hearts and guide our steps in the way of peace. *(Candles are lit.)*

Scripture: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7, 9-12

Chant: MV10 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

- 1 Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
 she who danced when earth was new.
 Follow closely what she teaches,
 for her words are right and true.
 Wisdom clears the path to justice,
 Showing us what love must do.**
- 2 Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
 crying in the market-place.
 Hear the Word made flesh among us,
 full of glory, truth, and grace.
 When the word takes root and ripens,
 peace and righteousness embrace.**
- 3 Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
 nurture all who seek rebirth.
 Spirit guide and close companion,
 bring to light our sacred worth.
 Free us to become your people,
 holy friends of God and earth.**

Pause and breathe

Prayer

Silence – 30 seconds

Anthem: *Veni Sancte Spiritus* (Come, Holy Spirit) (Summer Choir)

WE REJOICE AND REFLECT

“Have you understood all this?”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Silence - 1 minute

Chant: *The Kingdom of God* (Taize)

**The kin-dom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, God, and open in us the gates of your kin-dom.**

Reflection

Rev. Emily Gordon

WE ASK & YIELD

“What is new and what is old.”

Reflection Questions:

When does language assist or hinder you as you seek the sacred in your life? What words heard today resonate or challenge?

Which of the images will you carry with you today (mustard seed, yeast, buried treasure, pearl of great value, net full of fish, or head of household able to bring new and old)? Why?

Where in your life are you a disciple (a “student of the kingdom of heaven”)?
Where do you find yourself seeking?

Silence - 1 minute

Said Response:

**Holy God, who is Wholly Love,
may we find in the stories of scripture
the wisdom we need to live
with faith, justice, and love. Amen.**

Offering Invitation

Offering Chant: Ubi Caritas (x 6)

**Ubi caritas et amor,
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

Offering Prayer

**As we offer these gifts, may they be used and shared
with wisdom and compassion
for sake of all of creation. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Tom Clark

Sung Response: MV 79 Spirit, open my heart (chorus)

**Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.**

Yielding Prayer

**Spirit of Wisdom,
break open our hearts with your love,
overwhelm with joy and pain until
we are transformed
and our reflections become actions
shaped by gratitude, courage, and hope.
Amen.**

Silence... (1 minute)

WE GO

Seeking a wise and discerning heart.

Chant: VU 356 *Seek Ye First*

- 1 **Seek ye first the kindom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**
- 2 **Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**
- 3 **We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

Life and Works of the Congregation

Yielding Promise

Wherever you go, God will be there.

Help me notice. Help us notice together.

Closing Blessing

Postlude: *Caritas abundat in omnia (Love abounds in all)* for Piano Solo, composed by Deborah Park adopted from a chant by Hildegard von Bingen

All depart in silence as able.



Summer Worship Schedule

A reminder that there is no worship at TSP in August. ***In August, TSP will join Bloor Street at St. Matthew's United Church (729 St. Clair Ave W) at 10:30am.*** We return to TSP online on September 6th, and in-person on September 13th!

Staff Summer Holidays & Office Closures

Hewitt will take his summer holiday from August 1-31st this year. During this time, Rev. Douglas Du Charme will provide pastoral care. The Church Office will be closed from August 1-17th, and Deborah will take her holidays from August 1-17th.

Sunday September 6th Worship will be online only

On Sunday September 6th, we will meet online for worship for a virtual service using our regular Zoom link. There will

be no in-person worship at TSP on Sunday, September 6th.

Sarah's Next Chapter and Appreciation

After two years with TSP as our Communications and Administration Coordinator, Sarah Redikopp has submitted her resignation to the TSP Church Board Executive Committee, effective August 14, 2026. Sarah has been offered a new position with the Lorreto Sisters/Congregation of Jesus as their Mission, Charism, and Vocations Animator. Her work will begin there on August 17, 2026.

Sarah has had a deep love for and dedication to the work of our congregation and has shared her amazing skills in many ways during her time with us, which has been a period of many changes. She has kept us, as well as the world outside of our building, well informed and very welcomed into our life here. We will miss her!

Sarah is very happy about this new opportunity, and we congratulate her as she moves into living out her ministry in new ways! *We will celebrate her time with us on Sunday, October 4th. Mark that in your calendar now.*

Support TSP's Sandwich-Making Ministry!

TSP makes 200 sandwiches once a month for St. Luke's United to distribute to hungry folk in their Carlton and Sherbourne neighbourhood. Donations for the groceries are kindly requested and can either be given to Janet Haddock or sent to TSP by e-transfer to tspdeposit@trinitystpauls.ca...if you wish a tax receipt. Please let Janet know if you are making a donation so we know how long we can offer this service (haddock.janet44@gmail.com). Anyone wishing to join our happy sandwich-making team is welcome, as well. Thank you.

Looking ahead to Fall 2026...

Please note the following dates for Fall 2026 and mark your calendars:

- **Sunday September 13:** Welcome Back Sunday & Hewitt's One Year Anniversary at TSP
- **Sunday September 20:** Church Calendar Planning Meeting (*All Circle/Committee Chairs and those planning events in the 2026-2027 year are asked to attend this annual planning meeting*).
- **Sunday October 4:** West Wing Workshop (More info to come)

September Preaching Schedule

September 06 - Creation 1 - ONLINE ONLY - *Hewitt Holmes (The Rev.)*

September 13 - Creation 2 - Communion, Welcome Back Sunday, Hewitt & TSP 1 Year Anniversary- *Hewitt Holmes (The Rev.)*

September 20 - Creation 3 - Contemplative Service - *Hewitt away September 14-20*

September 27 - Creation 4 - TSP & Bathurst Joint Service, Orange Shirt Day - *Renee Pelletier, Indigenous lawyer*

Contact Us

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