

# Opening Prayers for Sunday, May 24, 2020

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## Welcome

Good morning and welcome to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Hamilton, Ontario on Sunday, May 24, 2020. I am Rev. Mark Lewis and I am thankful that you are joining us for worship today. I pray that you will feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in this act of worship. I am thankful that Director of Music, Blair Havers is with us at the console of the four manual Cassavant organ, soprano soloist Beth McJannett is here to lift your soul with music, and Walter Plater is here to play the chimes. We are all thankful to Branden Moffat who is here to record the service, and will later edit it and upload it to St. Paul's YouTube Channel. For the sake of Christ, you are all welcomed in this worship.

## Call to Worship

O come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

## Opening Prayers

Holy God, who is always present with us, we come to you now through your son, Jesus Christ. Today we are thankful that you are with us, but we are also looking for new assurance of your presence. Teach us anew that you are with us, and that you are active in the world today. Sometimes we are jealous of the people in the Bible because they saw you more clearly than we do. Moses saw the burning bush. Daniel saw the angel in the lion's den. The disciples saw Jesus walking on the water. Why can't we see you, O God? Forgive us, the eyes of our hearts have been closed, you are all around us at all times. Forgive us and open our eyes, we ask it in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together, *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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen*