

St. Paul's United Church

Back to Basics: Prayer - Private, Public, Powerful

10:30 a.m. February 5th, 2017

* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer *

Prelude

O Word of God Incarnate

Broughton

We Gather in Community

***Greeting**

Lord, as we search now, let us find you.

As we knock, open the door to us.

Let us know you, that we may praise you;

and love you, that we may serve you.

***Introit:**

Let Us Build A House

MV 1(vs 5)

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.**

**All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

***Call to Worship (Responsive):**

Jesus taught his disciples

**To pray for the coming of God's kingdom, a state of being where God's will would be done
"on earth as it is in heaven."**

This day we too are called

to pray for such a kingdom, not with our words alone, but in the living of our lives.

May our worship deepen our commitment to its coming.

Let us worship God!

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn of Praise:** Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU 374

Tween Singers

I Ain't Gonna Grieve My Lord No More

arr. Schram

Time for the Young at Heart

Prayer of Confession (Responsive):

You are only as far away as the sound of our whispers will travel, Lord, yet we so often struggle to speak with you intimately. We make small talk sometimes, thanking you for sun and rain, for gentle breezes and low humidity. Though we may be grateful, we know that chatting about the weather is something we do with casual acquaintances and even strangers.

Hear our purposeful prayers.

We maintain substantial vocabularies—collections of words we use for term papers and interoffice memos and for bantering with our buddies. But do we use them to deepen the conversations we have with you?

Hear our purposeful prayers.

Forgive us when we are shallow, seeking a quick blessing or a fast favor from you without being willing to invest fully in a trusting, committed relationship with you. Forgive us when we are one-sided, asking always for mercy and compassion, but not returning the same.

Hear our purposeful prayers.

Forgive us when we approach you begging for guidance and direction, but then neglect to follow your instructions. Forgive us when we cry out with our pressing questions, but then stop listening for your answers.

Hear our purposeful prayers.

May we have another chance to appreciate the fullness of your love? May we try, once again, to shed our self-interest and find joy in serving your interests?

Hear our purposeful prayers. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

Scripture: Psalm 63 (VU 781) Josh MacIntyre

One: Herein is wisdom

All: Thanks be to God

Anthem O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee arr. Thiel

Scripture: Matthew 6:9-13 Rev. Richard

One: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Praise be to you O Christ

Message Talking to God Rev. Richard

Affirmation of Faith: Article XIII. Of Prayer

We believe that we are encouraged to draw near to God, our Heavenly Father, in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and on our own behalf and that of others to pour out our hearts humbly yet freely before Him, as becomes His beloved children, giving Him the honour and praise due His holy name, asking Him to glorify Himself on earth as in Heaven, confessing unto Him our sins, and seeking of Him every gift needful for this life and for our everlasting salvation. We believe also that, inasmuch as all true prayer is prompted by His Spirit, He will in response thereto grant us every blessing according to His unsearchable wisdom and the riches of His grace in Jesus Christ.

***Hymn of Praise:** Guide me O, Thou Great Jehovah

VU 651

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me

arr. Paxton

***Dedication Verse:** Christ Has No Body

MV 171

**[Refrain]: Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.**

**Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**Through every gift, give back to those in need,
as Christ was blessed, so now be a blessing,
with every gift a benediction be to the people of God. [Refrain]**

***Dedication Prayer (Unison):**

Lord, we thank you for Your faithfulness and that we can always trust in You. You are an abundant God and out of Your great mercy you have given us so much. We give you this offering today. With it we worship You and give our whole selves to You. Please now take it and use it for Your kingdom and Your glory. Extend and multiple its reach and influence we pray. May it be a great blessing to many. We ask all this in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayers of the People

***Hymn of Praise:** May the God of Hope

VU 424

***Blessing and Sending Forth (Responsive):**

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers, feeding us with your word, and encouraging us in our meeting together.

Take us and use us to love and serve you, and all people, in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***Choral Closing:** May God's Sheltering Wings

MV 214

**May God's sheltering wings,
God's gathering wings protect you.
May God's nurturing arms,
God's cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in God's love,
and hold you in God's love.**

Postlude

Allegro Energico

Cappelen, arr. Williams

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Back to Basics! Continuing this month, we will be rediscovering our core as a people of faith. We've already explored the Holy Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as well as the importance of Christian Fellowship. Join us for the rest of the journey!

February 5th: **Prayer: Private, Public, Powerful**

February 12th: **Reading Scripture, Embracing the Word**

February 19th: **Tithing: Giving Our Very Selves**
February 26th: **Sacraments: Symbols of Grace Eternal**

A donation has been made to St. Paul's Foundation in memory of Gerald Sutherland by Marilyn Garland.

Greeters: February 5 Colleen Hanna & Bob Miller
Ushers: Left Side Blaine Irving & Derrick Grant
 Middle Isabel Green
 Right Side Ann & Harold Raper
 Upstairs Katie & Eric Lakes
Coffee Hour: February 12 Trustees

Annual Congregational Meeting has been set for February 12th with a snow date of February 19th. Following the worship service please meet in the Hall.

Volunteer Needed: We are looking for a **Chair of Finance** ! If you or you wish to suggest a possible candidate(s) please speak to Ron Naugler or call Cathy Simpson in the office at 458-1183! Thanks!

A FROZEN CASSEROLE SALE will be held at St. Paul's United Church, on the corner of George and York Streets in Fredericton, on Saturday, February 11th from 10 to 11 AM. Choose from baked beans, lasagna, meat balls, chicken, tuna, salmon, shepherd's pie, hash browns, turnip, squash, and more. Some gluten free. Three sizes to choose from. Come early for the best selection. Go Green! Bring your shopping bags. Donna Chauvin 458-5885.

Been to the Library lately? We have a great assortment of books that are sure to delight! Many topics , many opportunities—we even have some books that have been written and published by our own Darlene Ryan. Take the time to drop by and see if something catches your eye!

2016 Income Tax Receipts & 2017 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex, if you are interested in donating to the church and are not on PAR or using weekly offering envelopes please contact Cathy Simpson in the office at 458-1183.

BIBLE STUDY for **World Day of Prayer 2017** will be held at Forest Hill United Church on Monday, FEBRUARY 13, at 10 am. It will be led by Rev. Ali Anningson with the theme "Am I Being Unfair to You?" Presented by the Fredericton Women's Inter-Church Council. Women of the congregation are urged to attend this preparation for the services to be held on Friday, March 3. For more information please contact Ann Raper at 457-0164

The following schedule indicates DONATIONS by various level of dollars.

	2016	2015
Over \$10,000	1	2
Over \$ 5,001 less than 10,000	7	10
Over \$ 3,001 less than 5,000	18	17

Over \$ 2,001 less than 3,000	21	22
Over \$ 1,001 less than 2,000	40	40
Over \$ 500 less than 1,000	42	37
Less than 500	72	58
2016: Envelope users: 127	PAR contributors: 71	
2015: Envelope users: 135	PAR contributors: 65	

If you are interested in going on PAR please contact Cathy Simpson in the office at 458-1183. The PAR program is an incredible help with our regular cash flow and ease of paying our expenditures. We all realize it is difficult to get to church each and every Sunday, especially in the winter, by using the PAR system it allows you to contribute your yearly donations evenly and without having to catch up!