

St. Paul's United Church

Back to Basics: Holy Spirit, Holy Wisdom, Wholly God

10:30 a.m. January 22nd, 2017

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

Prelude

Toccatina for Flute

Yon

We Gather in Community

***Greeting (Responsive):**

Jesus promised:

I will ask the father. He will give you another advocate. To help you and be with you forever.

The spirit of truth. The world cannot accept as they do not see or know him, But you know him.

He lives with and within you. I will not leave you as orphans. I will come to 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):**

Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of life, in the beginning of time, you moved over the face of the waters; you breathe into every living being the breath of life.

All: Come, Creator Spirit, and renew the whole creation.

Holy Spirit, voice of the prophets: you enflame men and women with a passion for your truth, and through them, call your people to ways of justice and compassion.

All: Come, Spirit of Righteousness, and burn in our hearts.

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Jesus: by your power Jesus came to bring good news to the poor and release to those held captive; Holy Spirit, Advocate, Teacher: You speak to us of our Lord, and show us the depth of his love.

All: Come, liberating Spirit, and free us from the power of sin and death. Come, Spirit of Truth, dwell in us and lead us in the way of Jesus Christ.

Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame: You filled disciples with joy and courage, empowering them to preach your Word and share your good news. Holy Spirit, Spirit of Peace: You break down barriers of

language, race, and culture, and heal the divisions that separate us. Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life: at the close of the age, all creation will be renewed to sing your praise.

All: Come, Spirit of Power, make us bold witnesses of your redeeming love. Come, Reconciling Spirit, and unite us all in the love of Christ. Come, Creator Spirit, and make us new creations in Jesus Christ.

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn of Praise:** Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us VU 198

Time for the Young at Heart

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

We confess to you, Renewing Spirit, that we confuse unity with uniformity, and diversity with divisiveness. We speak and behave as if being a part of your family means assimilating others to our way of living. We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person. We long to change these patterns, O Creator, but we do not know how. Teach us to value challenge. Help us to see strength in difference. And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and love. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

Scripture: Corinthians 12:4-13 Mike Berry

One: Herein is wisdom

All: Thanks be to God

Anthem Gentle Voice Dengler

Scripture: John 14:15-19, 25-27 Rev. Richard

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

All: Praise be to you O Christ

Message Holy Wisdom

Affirmation of Faith: Article VIII. Of the Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who moves upon the hearts of men to restrain them from evil and to incite them unto good, and whom the Father is ever willing to give unto all who ask Him. We believe that He has spoken by holy men of God in making known His truth to men for their salvation; that, through our exalted Saviour, He was sent forth in power to convict the world of sin, to

enlighten men's minds in the knowledge of Christ, and to persuade and enable them to obey the call of the Gospel; and that He abides with the Church, dwelling in every believer as the spirit of truth, of power, of holiness, of comfort, and of love.

***Hymn of Praise:** Spirit God, Be our Breath MV 150

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Andante from Sonata No. 1 Rheinberger

***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):**

Even after giving us the greatest gift of all in your Son, Jesus Christ, your generosity continues, O God. In the Holy Spirit we are afforded so many gifts that guide us and empower us in the stewardship of this world. And so, we offer these gifts back to you. Bless them and use them in the work of building your kingdom. AMEN

Prayers of the People

***Hymn of Praise:** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart VU 378

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

The Holy Spirit is calling us forth!

We listen for the still small voice in our hearts.

The Holy Spirit is calling us to action!

We see her, we hear her, shouting in the streets.

The Holy Spirit is calling us to life.

We go forth renewed by the breath of God.

***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

Finale from Sonata No. 1 Rheinberger

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Greeters: January 22: Harold & Ann Raper
Ushers: Left Side: Florence Bartlett & Marian MacKay
Middle: Larry Buick
Right Side: Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones
Upstairs: Hope Brewer & Darrell Bruce
Coffee Hour: January 29: Worship

Men's Conversation Group returns this week! On **January 24th at 6:45 pm**, the men's group will be gathering in the **Ladies' Parlour**.

Back to Basics! For the next 8 weeks, we will be exploring our core as a people of faith. Our Scriptures, prayers and messages will reflect a theme, a focus as we remind ourselves of God's call for us. Join us as we rediscover who we are as members of the Body of Christ!

January 8th: **Christ, Our Center, Our Beginning**
January 15th: **God, Our Creator, Our Parent**
January 22nd: **Holy Spirit, Holy Wisdom, Wholly God**
January 29th: **Fellowship: Who we are together, matters**
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**

The Fredericton District, **Women's Inter-Church Council** will hold their PLANNING MEETING for the 2017 World Day of Prayer services tomorrow, January 23, 10 am at Forest Hill United. Service this year was prepared by the women of the Philippines on the theme "Am I Being Unfair to You?" based on Scripture from Matthew 20: 1-16. Bible Study for this service will be held Feb.13 at the same location. Any women interested are welcome to attend. For more information or for a drive phone Ann Raper at 457-0164.

We're bringing **Bring a Friend to Church** back! On **January 29th** we encourage you to share your passion for this community with friends and family, and fill your belly too. Following the service there will be a free pot luck. If you have a favourite soup, share it with us, if you can't bring anything, come and share in the bounty of this community.

What does your craft room look like? Do you have enough stuff? Do you want MORE!?Well the ladies at St. Paul's United Church are having a **Nearly New Craft Supply Sale** on Saturday January 28th from 10 to 12 noon. Fill one of our grocery bags for \$5.00. Enjoy coffee & a muffin for \$2.00. All proceeds are going to help our Pantry. Items can be dropped off on Friday, Jan 27th. Thanks for your support.!!

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.

Annual Reports are due in the office by January 30th.

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** has been set for February 12th with a snow date of February 19th

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!

Bored? We have a library full of books with something for everyone—children, young adults and older adults. Come check us out!!