

St. Paul's United Church

First Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m March 5th, 2017

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

Gathering Music:

We Gather in Community

***Lenten Procession of Symbols**

***Introit:** Come Touch Our Hearts MV 12 vs 4

Come touch us in
The moments we are fragile
And in our weakness your great strength reveal;
That we may rise to follow and to serve,
Steady now our nerve,
Come, touch and bless our wills.

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

Come, all who need help!
Our help comes from God, the one who made heaven and earth.
Come, all who desire blessing!
Our blessing comes from God, the God of Abraham, the God of the ages.
Come, all who long for salvation!
Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ, the one sent by God to save the world.

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of Approach & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn of Praise:** Hope of Abraham and Sarah MV 148

Time for the Young at Heart

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

God of salvation, you shower our lives and our world with love, yet we too often turn away from your blessing. It is just so easy to complain! There are little annoyances each day, but they pile up into a mountainous burden that becomes a curse on our lives. Free us from our unwise choices, O God. When we are distracted and confused, redirect our attention to the abundant opportunities to experience your love. During this Lenten journey, focus our hearts on you, that we may choose the blessing of salvation offered us each day through Jesus Christ, in whom we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Sung Prayer of Illumination: Take O Take me as I Am MV 85
Take, O take me as I am.
Summon out what I shall be
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

Scripture: John 3:1-17

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

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Message

***Hymn of Praise:** In The Bulb There is a Flower VU 703

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

***Dedication Verse:** In Gratitude and Humble Trust VU 544

**In gratitude and humble Trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

***Dedication Prayer (Unison):**

**Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, your own Son, Jesus Christ. In
thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our
intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

***Hymn of Praise:** Will You Come And Follow Me VU 567

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

As you leave this place, lift up your eyes to the Lord!

The One who sent Jesus Christ, as salvation for all the world, will never desert us.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in, from this time on, and forevermore.

Emboldened by Christ's Peace and empowered by God's blessing, we go to the world.

***Choral Closing:** Go Make a Difference MV 209 (vs 2)

[Refrain] Go make a diff'rence, we can make a diff'rence

Go make a diff'rence in the world

Go make a diff'rence we can make a diff'rence

Go make a diff'rence in the world

We are the hands of Christ, reaching out to those in need

The face of God for all to see

We are the spirit of hope, we are the voice of peace

Go make a diff'rence in the world. [Refrain]

Ministry of Music:

We invite you to stay and enjoy the Ministry of Music

Announcements

Greeters:	March 12	Linda & Alastair Lamont
Ushers:	Left Side	Allison Gorrill & Roger Miller
	Middle	Larry Buick
	Right Side	Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones
	Upstairs	Katie & Eric Lakes
Coffee Hour:	March 19	Property Management

A donation has been made to The Pantry in loving memory of Rev. Reg & Monica Miller by Bob & Colleen, Roger & Brenda and their families.

If you are an adult looking to join the church, we will be welcoming New Members on Easter Sunday. Contact the office or either of your ministers for more information.

The UCW will meet on Monday, March 13th at 10 am in the Ladies Parlour.

The Women's Inter-Church Council will hold their **World Day of Prayer** evaluation meeting in Fraser Hall tomorrow, March 13 at 10.30 am. Women of the congregation are invited to the meeting but especially to the pot-luck luncheon beginning at 11.30. This is our chance to show hospitality to women of other congregations in the city.

The UCW of St. Paul's United Church, on the corner of George and York Streets, will be hosting a **BRIDGE LUNCHEON**, on Saturday, April 8th beginning at 12 noon. Tables are \$48.00. Contact Isabel to register at 459-7116.

UCW Spring Rally: April 29th in Florenceville. Theme: Reaching Out With Purpose. Please watch for further details.

"When God is our Companion"

- Jon Gilbert

When God is our Companion,
as we walk the road of Life,
There is help for every problem
and grace for care and strife!
And we'll find that we've been happy
all along the path we've trod,
when in faith we've made the journey
hand-in-hand along with God!

St Paul's currently has **space for rent**, that being the room (14' x 27'=348 sq. ft.) off the lower level gym. This includes access to the gym, the lower level kitchen and the washrooms. The area would appeal to a Daycare operation (pre-school or after school), exercise class, dance class, etc. If you know of potential tenants please contact Greg Morton 455-8179)

Grand or Baby Grand Piano Needed

The piano in Fraser Memorial Hall has seen its better days and is beyond repair. If you have or know someone who has a Grand or Baby Grand Piano that could be gifted to St Paul's please contact Greg Morton 455-8179.

The New Maryland United Church, New Maryland Lions Club & New Maryland Fire Dept. are having a **Fundraising**

Breakfast & Silent Auction at the New Maryland Rec. Centre on Saturday Mar 18th from 8am – 12Noon. All proceeds are to support RON TUPLING and his family. Ron is a double lung transplant recipient.

TOP O'THE MORNING! OUR JIGGS DINNER will be held on Friday, March 17th 5:30 PM in the Nashwaaksis United Church auditorium, featuring corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, please pudding and a "special dessert"! As the Committee must know how many people are coming for food purposes, tickets are available by calling the church office (458-9452) so get yours early! Adults - \$14 (because of the meat cost); children 10 & under, \$5. All are welcome!

Community Breakfast & Silent Auction, Saturday, March 18th at the New Maryland Rec Centre. Proceeds to support Double Lung Transplant recipient Ron Tupling and his family. A free will offering will be accepted at the door.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner - Save the Date

We will be hosting a Roast Beef Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday, March 17th at St. Paul's. I know you won't want to miss this opportunity to come out in fellowship and support so please save the date and plan to attend. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in any way please contact Ralph Simpson at 459-8485 or any of the usual suspects!

Tickets are available in the Hall today or by calling Ralph Simpson at 459-8485, you may also contact the church office at 458-1183.

Auction Items are needed for the Silent Auction, these items should be valued at no less than \$25. (Tax receipts will be given at fair market value) Items may be dropped off with Cathy Simpson in the church office.