## St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. January 3, 2016

The people of St. Paul's United Church welcome you.

May there be a blessing for you in this house today.

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

Prelude Holy is the Lord Shubert, arr. Leatherman Introit Lord Prepare Me (X2) MV 18

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living, Sanctuary for you.

\*Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, and also with you.

Welcoming the Light
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice!

Our joy is in the Lord who blesses us.

Shout for joy for the Lord is near!

Our praises ascend to God for the mighty things God has done Let your praise dance and swirl in tribute to God.

Surely God blesses and saves us. Hallelujah! Praise be to God.

**AMEN** 

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:22-32 Julian Walker

**Opening Prayer** 

\*Opening Hymn Angels From the Realms of Glory VU 36

Prayer of Reconciliation (Unison)

As the new year is born, we remember and regret. Forgive us, Holy One, when we keep You at a distance. When we defy your bidding. When we make it harder for people to know you. Forgive us, Holy One, when we deny our weakness. When we wallow in our weakness. When we take advantage of the weakness of others.

Forgive us, Holy One, when we refuse your counsel. When we waste your gifts. When we withhold Your compassion from others. Help us Lord to live our lives worthy of your love.

AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

The Lord's Prayer

VU 959

Time for the Young and the Young at Heart

**Story time verse** Christ Shines as a Solitary Star MV 220

**Christ Shines as a Solitary Star** 

Faith is the inner light

You and I together illumine the light of lights

and illumine the pathway home

**Prayers of the People** 

**\*Hymn** In The Bulb There is a Flower

VU 703

**Invitation to Offering** 

Offertory See Amid the Winter's Snow Goss, arr. E Wagner \*Dedication Verse MV 191

What can I give him, poor as I am

If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb.

If I were a wise one, I would do my part.

Yet what can I give him - give my heart.

**Dedication Prayer (in unison)** 

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion. AMEN

**Gospel:** Philippians 3:13-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5: 17

Bob Miller arr. Stauff

**Bob Miller** 

VU 642

Anthem Ding Dong Merrily on High ar

Message A New Beginning
Hymn Be Thou My Vision

## \*Commissioning (Responsive)

We go from this place of worship into a world in need of service.

We bring the hope we have found here to a world that needs much, Peace to a world seeking relief and Joy to all seeking good news.

## \*Benediction

\*Choral Closing Peace be With You MV 215
Peace be with you, peace forever, peace be with you my friends
Till we meet again may God be with you. Peace, Peace,

\*Postlude Two Bohemian Carols arr. Price

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Coffee Hour Jan., 10: Facilitation

**Ushers:** Left Side: Derrick Grant & Cathy Simpson

Right Side: Florence Bartlett & Lois Walker

Middle: Larry Buick

Upstairs: Eric & Katie Lakes

**St. Paul's Tween Singers:** Boys and girls aged 8-13 who like to sing are invited to come to the youth lounge next Sunday, Jan. 10th immediately following the service. Bring a friend! Rehearsals will be held each Sunday from 11:45 am -12:15 pm.

## 2016 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2016 envelopes this morning—they can be found in the Narthex. If anyone wishes to begin on the PAR program or receive envelopes please contact Cathy Simpson at 458-1183—thank you. cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

**2015 Annual Reports** are due in the office by January 11.

**Light Up a Life!** Make a donation to light a bulb on the giant Stan Cassidy Christmas tree. **Honour** or **Remember** a loved one while helping others. To <u>contribute</u>, visit <u>www.stancassidyfoundation.ca</u> or call 506-452-5753.