

St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. September 4, 2016

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

Prelude

Prelude in Classic Style
St. Columbia

Young
Stearns

We Gather in Community

Greeting (Responsive):

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

Introit:

Lord, Prepare Me

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.**

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

We gather in the presence of God:

**who knows us when we wake up and when we go to sleep, and in all the moments in
between.**

We gather in the house of God:

**who has created a family for us, here as well as in Aleppo, in Brussels, and on the
streets of Nashville.**

We gather to be the people of God:

who appeals to us to follow in love, in faith, in service.

Let us worship God!

Prayer of Approach

Lord's Prayer

Musical Gift:

Guide My Wayfaring Feet

Schram

Time for the Young at Heart

Pastor Sarah

***Children's Hymn:** It's A Song Of Praise

MV 30

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

**Searching God, we are so attached to our possessions, we have trouble sharing them. We are
so connected to our pleasures that we cannot feel the pain of those around us. We are so
stuck on ourselves, we cannot sense our souls slipping away into the shadows. Most merciful**

God: loosen us from the grip of the world, so we may feel your healing touch. Sever us from our broken ways, so your Spirit might bind us to you. Reshape us, redeem us, renew us, so we may take up our crosses and follow our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

(Silent Prayer)

Assurance of God's Love

The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. This is the Good News - we are God's new creation.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are reshaped, renewed, forgiven. Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

We Listen for the Voice of the Spirit

Sung Prayer for Illumination: Listen God is Calling MV 97
**Listen God is calling, through the word inviting
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.**

First Lesson: Jeremiah 18:1-11 Cathy Davis
One: Herein is Wisdom
All: Thanks be to God

Anthem: Ezekiel Saw The Wheel Hays

Second Lesson: Luke 14:25-33 Rev. Richard
One: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

Message The Things We Love Rev. Richard
***Hymn:** Will You Come And Follow Me VU 567

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We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Offering

Offertory: Promised Land McDonald

***Dedication Verse:** What Can I Do? MV 191
**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy! I'll say a prayer!
I'll bring my love! I'll do my share!**

***Dedication Prayer (Unison):**

Some bear crosses hollowed out by hunger, some carry crosses called injustice. Sometimes our abundance is a cross which we struggle to bear. But as we learn to follow you, as we seek

to be as generous as you, we discover that we can gift others with hope, with grace, and with peace. Receive our offerings this day, so they might bless your children in every way imaginable. This we pray in the name of Jesus. AMEN

Prayers of the People

***Hymn:** Jesus You Have Come To The Lakeshore VU 563

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

With empty hands and open hearts, go forth to follow Jesus in love and service to the world.

Mold us, shape us, and guide us, O God, fit us for care of your people. AMEN

***Choral Closing:** Take Up This Song of Love MV 213

Take up this song of love and go into the world.

Take up this song of love in every moment.

In every moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives.

Lay them down in love, lay them down and take up this song.

Postlude Toccata in D Minor Nevin

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Announcements

Greeters: Sept. 4: Anna & Frank Goddard
Ushers: Left Side: Florence Bartlett & Roger Miller
Middle: Isabel Green
Right Side: Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones
Upstairs: Katie & Eric Lakes
Coffee Hour: Sept. 11: Quilters

We are happy to welcome back Dr. Sharon Pond as she joins the music team as organist, Alexis will continue on as Choir Director.

A special thank you to the Youth Choir this morning for their contribution to the service. Isabelle Gaudet, Abby Gaudet, Jordan Pond, Maretta Donnelly and Jocelyn Donnelly.

Sympathy and prayers of the congregation are extended to Jamie, Beth, Sydney and Abby Henderson in the death of Jamie's grandmother Helen Hall of Sydney, NS

Congregational Meeting will be held after church on **Sunday, September 18th, 2016**, for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of moving forward with a second, paid, full-time minister. A representative of Woolastook Presbytery will be present, all are welcome to attend and discuss, and all confirmed members may vote.

Sunday School starts up on Sept. 1. We are blessed to have teachers for the months of Sept. and Oct., but are still looking for Nov. and Dec. Know that lessons are prepared ahead of time by a volunteer, and all you need to do is show up and lead. We support one another to make light the work God has called us to.

Spirit Sisters, a women's spirituality/discussion group will be gathering this fall. The first meeting will be a meet & greet, in the Ladies' Parlour at St. Paul's on **Monday, September 12th**, at 7pm. This will be a weekly group (except for holidays), and for the fall session, we will be looking at Stormie Omartian's book "The Power of the Praying Woman" which is available at Chapter's, Lighthouse, and through Amazon. All who self-identify as women and sisters in Christ are welcome to come and explore your spirituality with us. Any questions, queries, concerns, and conundrums can be addressed to Pastor Sarah at sarah.magie@gmail.com.

Cubs and Beavers will be having their first meeting/registration on Sept 13. We do not need leaders but we have lots of room for children from age 5 to grade 5. Contact jocraighenry@gmail.com for further information.

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday - Sunday, 25 September. Starting this fall, the last Sunday of **every** month will be a designated bring a friend to church Sunday. We will be discussing throughout this fall ways of being invitational in our church community, and this is one of the initiatives we will be trying. Printed invitations will be provided in the bulletin two weeks prior

to our first Bring a Friend to Church Sunday, and we would like to challenge you to the **10 by 10** challenge: that means, for 10 days prior to the event, invite 10 people you interact with each day. That means everyone would have invited 100 people! Everyone is welcome here at St. Paul's!

We will also be having a **soup and sandwich potluck luncheon** after church on **Sunday, 25 September**. There won't be a sign-up sheet for this event, it will be a true smorgasbord of whatever people feel like bringing, but we suggest soup and sandwiches, because it's easy. And please, don't feel like you can't stay if you didn't/can't bring anything (especially our invited friends!) - everyone is welcome, and we'll make sure there is enough soup and sandwiches for all!

Screens & Sound: This is the last week that Rev. Richard will be offering training for the screens and sound system for any who are interested in learning more about how our system works. This training will take place Thursday afternoon between 1 and 4. If this time is inconvenient for you, please contact the office and other arrangements can be made.

Office Information needed:

Have you moved, do you have a new email address, wish to use envelopes or join the PAR program or have other information that needs to be changed on your family records here at St. Paul's? Please inform Cathy Simpson in the office at 458-1183 or email cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com