

# St. Paul's United Church

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany - January 28, 2018

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.  
At the points marked \* - those who are able are invited to stand.

*Psalm 139:16-18 - Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.*

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

**Organ Prelude:** Andante from Sonata No. 1 Rheinberger

### \* 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.**

### \* Lighting the Christ Candle

\* **Introit:** 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.**

## Welcome & Announcements

\* **Gathering Hymn:** Open My Eyes VU 371

### \* Call to Worship:

God so loved the world

**we seek to know that love.**

Like with Moses and the serpents, God seeks to heal his children

**we want to know that healing.**

In the light of Christ we are revealed, our hate, misdeeds, fear and failings exposed

**yet in this there is the release and new life.**

So we come this morning to hear again the voice of the One who shows us God's heart, who bears God's promises, who teaches us and gives us new life.

**Let us worship offering praise and thanksgiving in Christ's name.**

## St. Paul's Contact Information

stpaulsunitedchurch@nb.aibn.com www.stpaulsunited.ca

Tel. 458-1183 Fax: 458-1944

**Keep up to date on upcoming activities**

**and stay in touch in-between Sundays!**

<http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsunitedfredericton>

**Ministers:** Rev. Richard Bowley rev.bowley@outlook.com  
Rev. Michelle Armstrong michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com  
Pastor Sarah Magie is on maternity leave

**Music Director:** Dr. Sharon Pond spond@bellaliant.net

**Choir Director:** Alexis Ervin aervin17@gmail.com

**Sexton:** Sam Zakaria

**Office Admin:** Cathy Simpson cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

## Office Hours

**Rev. Richard**

**Rev. Michelle**

**Sunday:** By Appointment

By Appointment

**Monday:** 8:30—12

9-12, afternoon by appointment

**Tuesday:** 8:30—12

9-12, afternoon by appointment

**Wednesday:** By Appointment

9-12:30, 1:30-4

**Thursday:** 8:30—12

By appointment

*These hours are subject to change due to Emergency Pastoral Care, meetings and other church business elsewhere.*

## Upcoming Weekly Activities

**Monday-Friday** 8:30 am-4 pm Adult Learning Association

11:30-1 pm AA - Youth Lounge

**Mon., Wed., Friday** 12-1 pm Exercise Group - Gym

**Monday** 7 pm Spirit Sisters

**Tuesday & Thursday** 1-4 pm Quilting - Quilter's Parlour

**Tuesday & Saturday** 7-9 pm AA - Youth Lounge

**Tuesday** 10 am Ladies Bible Study—Parlour

6:30-8 pm Beavers & Cubs - Gym

7 pm Fredericton Choral Society -Hall

7 pm River Valley Chorus-Sanctuary

**Wednesday** 9 am Pantry

10 am Parlour Prayers

7 pm Men's Discussion Group

**Thursday** 7 pm Senior Choir Practice - Hall

**Friday** (1st and 3rd) 6:30-9 pm Youth Group

**Sunday** 11:45 am Children's Choir - Ladies Parlour

**Prayer of the Day**

**Family Hymn:** Child Of Blessing VU 444 vs 2

**Story Time for the Young and Young at Heart**

**LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

**Anthem** Sing a New Song to The Lord Sleeth

**Today's Scripture:** John 3:1-21 Muriel Falkenstein  
This is the Good News. **Thanks be to God.**

**Message** What now?

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn:** As Comes the Breath of Spring VU 373

**Moment for Community** Board Stewardship Task Group  
Blaine Irving  
**Offertory Music** Prelude on Nettleton Young

**Dedication Verse:** Grant us God VU 540  
**Grant us God the grace of giving  
with a spirit large and free  
that ourselves and all our living,  
we may offer faithfully.**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**  
**Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

**SENDING FORTH**

\* **Closing Hymn:** God of Bible MV 28

\* **Commissioning & Benediction (Responsive):**

We go now, not to disappear from the middle of God's story like Nicodemus, but to carry the love, healing and hope of a new and better life into the world!

**We go now to allow Christ's light to shine through us,  
God's love to be reflected in all we do, for we are agents of  
God's healing and redeeming power.**

Go now to write your pages in God's ongoing story, knowing the Grace of Christ attends you, the love of God surrounds you and the Holy Spirit will guide and empower you today and always.

**Choral Closing:** Forth in Your Name VU 416  
**Forth in your name, O Christ, we go,  
 our daily labour to pursue,  
 you, only you, resolved to know  
 in all we think, or speak, or do.**

**Ministry of Music:** Finale from Sonata No. 1 Rheinberger

*We invite you to stay and enjoy the Ministry of Music*

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**Ushers:** Left Side: Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones  
 Center: Isabel Green  
 Right Side: Betty Fitzpatrick & Lois Walker  
 Upstairs: Andrew, Hope, Laura & Graham Steeves  
**Coffee Hour:** Christian Education & Worship

**Loblaws** is providing **\$25 gift cards** to people who bought bread (see list at link below) between 2002 and 2015 at certain grocery stores. (ex. Superstore). If you are eligible to receive one, would you consider filling out the form at the link below and donating your card to our Brown Bag or Pantry programs when they mail it to you? It would be greatly appreciated and go a long way! Here is the link with eligibility criteria and the form:

<https://www.loblawcard.ca/en/register>



Mark your calendars! On February 13th all are invited to come and share in the fellowship and the food of **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!** Supper starts a 5:45 pm and while there is no set cost, a free-will offering basket will be located at the entrances to the hall.

**Music Event Support:**

We're trying to catch up to our Director of the Music Ministry, Dr. Sharon Pond! She's full of wonderful ideas for occasional special events which fill our sanctuary with beautiful music, and we'd like to have a group of people who we can call on to help with the not-so-musical activities that these events involve: handing-out programs, collection, managing the sound/screen system. If you're interested/available to help out with this low-volume commitment, please contact Cathy (458-1183) or send a note to '[stpaulsmusic3@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsmusic3@gmail.com)'

**Today in Sunday School:** Jesus, the Greatest Prophet. Anchor Point: God sent Jesus to tell us about God. Bible Verse for the month: "This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world." John 6:14. Bible Story: "A Boy's Lunch (John 6:1-15). In Jesus' teachings, food was used as a symbol of spiritual food with eternal value. The miracle of feeding the five thousand was inadequate compared to the abundant spiritual provisions offered by Jesus, the Bread of Life.

**2017 Income Tax Receipts** are available in the Narthex this morning or may be picked up from the office during the week.

**Spirit Sisters** will be meeting Monday, January 29th at 7 pm in the Ladies' Parlour

**Ladies Bible Study** will begin again on Tuesday, January 30th at 10 a.m. in the Ladies Parlour.

**Men's Conversation Group:** Meets on Wednesday, January 31st at 7 pm in the Ladies' Parlour.

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
 February 18, 2018  
 following our Worship Service  
 Fraser Memorial Hall**

**New to the Congregation?** Please let Cathy Simpson in the office know (458-1183) so you can be added to our email send outs and to our family records. If you need envelopes or wish to go on PAR please inform Cathy at the time of your call.

**DivorceCare** will be held at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 536 Northumberland St on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 PM beginning on January 16. For more information or to register, please contact the church office at 458-8527."

The **All Saints' Women of Worship Group** are looking for odds & ends of yarn, to knit muffs to donate to Nursing Homes for Dementia patients. If you have any yarn, you would like to donate, please call Lois 363-4229 or Sharon 363-4296.