



St. Paul's United Church

December 23, 2018

Service Based on

Historic Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
From King's College, Cambridge 1918-2018

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.

Mission Statement: To glorify God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and serving others in Christ's name.

THE PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude: Noel with Variations Balbastre
Opening Hymn: Once in Royal David's City VU 62
(verse 1 is sung by Muriel Falkenstein,
please join in on the 2nd verse)

Prayer of Approach and Lord's Prayer

*Advent Candle Lighting:

Corey, Leah, Quinn, Ronan & Cormac Murphy

It's dark now.

But Hope in the Lord means never giving up on the light.

It's dark now.

But the Peace of our Lord shows us the way to the dawn.

It's dark now.

But Joy in the Lord is a fire in our hearts that nothing can extinguish. [light HOPE, PEACE, JOY candles]

And at the core of all this is God's eternal love for us.

Because this is a love without condition, without limits.

It is a Love that begins before creation and has no end.

And it is a love that is meant for sharing, reflecting from one to another, bathing the world in that love light.

Love is seeing the brokenness in the world and reaching out to heal and embrace,

so that together we find wholeness and live into the lives God calls us to. [light LOVE candle]

We light this candle, a dim symbol to represent God's love light, and yet in the darkness we know that it will not be consumed,

St. Paul's Contact Information

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Ministers: Rev. Michelle Armstrong michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com
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Pastor Sarah Magie sarah.magie@gmail.com
Music Director: Dr. Sharon Pond spond@bellaliant.net
Choir Director: Alexis Ervin aervin17@gmail.com
Custodian: Eric Hotte
Office Admin: Cathy Simpson cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

New Office Hours

	Rev. Richard	Rev. Michelle	Pastor Sarah
Cell:	(506)262-2150	(306)858-7602	(613)329-6315
Sun.:	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment
Mon.:	9am - noon	10 am - noon	8:30 am - noon
Tues.:	By Appointment	By Appointment	1-3 pm
Wed:	12-2 pm	10:30-12:30 pm	Day off
Thurs.:	12-2 pm	12-2 pm	8:30-12
Friday:	Day off	Day off	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 English Second Language
	11:30-1 pm	AA - Downstairs Lounge
Mon., Wed., Friday	12-1 pm	Exercise Group - Gym (January)
Tuesday & Thursday	1-4 pm	Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
Mon., Tues. & Sat.	7-9 pm	AA - Downstairs Lounge
Mon-Thurs	6:30-8 pm	Taekwondo
Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Beavers & Cubs - Gym (January)
	7 pm	F'ton Choral Society (January)
	7 pm	Barber Shopper Chorus (January)
Wednesday	9 - 11am	Pantry
Thursday	7-8:15 pm	Senior Choir
Friday	7-9:30 pm	Youth Group
Saturday	10 am-noon	Taekwondo (January)

OBSERVER: If you are interested in receiving the Observer for 2019 please let Cathy know (458-1183) by December 31. Cost is \$25 for the year (12 issues).

CHURCH OFFERINGS: PAR

We encourage our members to try PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance). 71 members are now using PAR and find it very convenient and easy to manage. No more envelopes, writing cheques or having the right amount of cash. Once signed up, future changes can be made easily. The system also makes it easier for the Church for preparing the budget. Please contact Cathy Simpson 458-1183 for more information.

Financial report to December 9, 2018

Our weekly offerings to date: \$237,874.37
Budget to December 31: \$288,000.00
Still in need of: \$ 50,125.63

December is normally a good contribution month but we wanted to bring the matter to your attention and solicit your assistance so that we can continue to share Gods love in worship and in our outreach.

UPDATE FROM THE BOARD:

The Board of St. Paul’s met this past week. In an effort to improve communication, here are some of the things we talked about as well as decisions we made:

-Land Acknowledgement: Education for the congregation will begin in the New Year. If you have a passion for this work, please connect with Alanna Palmer or call the church office.

-Marriage Policy: We have updated our policy to be more in line with the statement from The United Church of Canada. <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/marriage>

-Automatic Doors: The Board has asked the Property committee to look at the possibility of making St. Paul’s more accessible without changing the façade. More on this when Property gets back to us

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PAUL’S

December 24th	Children’s Christmas Eve Service	3 pm
	Traditional Christmas Eve Service	7 pm
	Carols & Communion	11 pm
December 30th	Joint Worship @ Wilmot	11:00 am

and so with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, we see the way ahead, and move empowered and prepared to bring Christ into the world.

Welcome & Announcements

****Hymn:** Gentle Mary Laid Her Child VU 46
(Tune of “Good King Wenceslas”)

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19
One: Herein is Wisdom.
All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: It Came Upon A Midnight Clear vs. 1-2 VU 44
(Sung Seated)

Children’s Choir: “Away in a Manger”

Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18
One: Herein is Wisdom.
All: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Angels From the Realms of Glory vs. 1-3 VU 36

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7
One: Herein is Wisdom.
All: Thanks be to God.

Adult Choir Anthem: When the Son of God Was Born
Sally DeFord

****Hymn:** O Little Town of Bethlehem vs. 1-2 VU 64
(Tune of “Forrest Green”)

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9
One: Herein is Wisdom.
All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks VU 75
(Sung Seated)

Fifth Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38
One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

***Hymn:** Good Christian Men Rejoice VU 35

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:1, 3-7
One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful vs. 1, 2, 4 VU 60
(Sung Seated)

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:8-16
One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Adult Choir Anthem: I Saw Three Ships *arr. by Lloyd Larson*

****Hymn:** God Rest You Merry Gentlemen (3 Verses)

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12
One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Hymn: Coventry Carol (Sung Seated)

Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14
One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Offertory Noel Polonais Guilmant

****Doxology:** In The Bleak Midwinter vs.4 VU 55

****Dedication of the Offering**

****Hymn:** Ding Dong Merrily On High (3 Verses)

Adult Choir Anthem: When a Child Is Born”
Fred Jacobson and Zacar

Prayer and Christmas Blessing

****Hymn:** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing VU 48

Ministry of Music: in Dulci Jubilo Bach
Please feel free to stay and enjoy the postlude

Greeters: Katie & Eric Lake
Ushers: Left Side: Linda & Alastair Lamont
Center: Isabel Green
Right Side: Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones
Upstairs: Hope, Andrew, Laura & Graham Steeves
Coffee Hour: UCW

Announcements

Many thanks to St Paul’s UCW for their generous gift of \$10,000 to the church.

Christmas Hours: Pleased be advised that the church will be closed from noon on December 24th to December 27 and from noon on December 31 to January 3.

Taxable Donations: All donations that you wish to have included in your 2018 tax receipt needs to reach the office by 11 a.m. on Monday, December 31.

2019 Offering Envelopes are ready for pick up—if you are in need of envelopes or wish to go on PAR please contact Cathy Simpson at 458-1183.

Good News! St. Paul’s United Church has been opening it’s doors the last few nights to help get those without a warm place to sleep in out of the cold. We are working with the “Out of the Cold Program” running at Bishop’s Court, but we still have volunteer needs as we make our way into the colder nights. There are still sign-up sheets in the narthex (the entryway of the church) and in Fraser Memorial Hall. If you feel called to this work, please add your name to the list.

Advent with Your Family. Bible Story: Joseph, Mary and Jesus: The announcement of Jesus’ birth was quite spectacular but it was given to shepherds on the hillside. Shepherds at that time were thought of as lower-class people and unclean. Yet the heavenly host appeared to them, offered honour to God and peace to those on whom his favour rests, and gave them a sign: they would find a baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger in the city of David.