

# St. Paul's United Church

December 8th, 2019 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

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

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.

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Mark: 1-4*

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

**Prelude:** Noel With Variations Balbastre

### **Greeting (Responsive):**

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

**And also with you.**

### \* **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy**

Can you hear it?

**What is it?**

God's Word is coming.

**We're listening, we're eager to hear.**

A voice cries out and declares the Promise of Peace.

**We stand in awe.**

Things are going to even out in the world.

**All people will embrace each other.**

Today we light the candle of Peace.

**Our peace comes from God.**

### \* **Sung Response: People Look East (Vs 1,2)**

**VU 9**

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east and sing today:**

**Love the guest is on the way.**

## St. Paul's Contact Information

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http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsunitedfredericton

**Ministers:** Rev. Michelle Armstrong michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com  
Rev. Richard Bowley

**Church Manager** Eric Hotte stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

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

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

### **Office Hours**

**Rev. Michelle**

### **Responsive**

**office Hours**

**Rev. Richard**

**Cell:** (506)259-7602

**Eric Hotte**

**On Sabbatical**

**Sun.:** By Appointment

11:30-1:30

until February

**Mon.:** 10-12 pm

10-1

1st 2020

**Tues.:** By Appointment

10-1

**Wed:** 10:30-12:30 pm

10-1

**Thurs.:** 12-2 pm

10-1

**Friday:** Day off

Day off

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

## Upcoming Weekly Activities

<b>Monday-Friday</b>	8:30 am-4 pm	Adult Learning Association
	8-5:30 p.m.	English Second Language
	11:30-1 pm	AA -Downstairs Lounge
<b>Tuesday</b>	7-9:30	Choral Society
	7-9:30	River Valley Choir
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	12-1 pm	Exercise Group - Gym
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	1-4 pm	Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
<b>Mon., Tues. &amp; Sat.</b>	7-9 pm	AA - Downstairs Lounge
<b>Mon-Thurs</b>	6:30-8 pm	Tae kwon do
<b>Wednesday</b>	9-11am	Pantry
<b>Thursday</b>	7-8:30	Choir Practice
<b>Friday</b>	7:30-9:30 pm	Youth Group (Contact Rev Michelle)
<b>Saturday</b>	10 am-noon	Tae kwon do
<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am	Bible Study - Conference Room

Give thanks  
TO THE **LORD**

FOR HE IS *good:*

HIS *love* ENDURES

PSALM 107:1

*forever.*

Lights for St. Paul's candle lighting service 7pm Christmas eve, a beautiful time of remembrance, please have the form back in by Dec 17th in order to be included in the bulletin.

Dec. 11 at 7pm, Christmas with the FHS Jazz Band," A Jazz Christmas" directed by Craig Woodcock. Donation to support the FHS Jazz band and St. Paul's music program.

Dec. 18 at 7 pm Twas the Night Before Christmas: A Concert of Organ Music and Readings". Donations for CBC feed a family. This is geared to organ lovers although all are welcome looks like fun!

St Paul's Yarn Ministry meets on the third Wednesday of each month. no previous experience or affiliation with St. Paul's required. Please let Jen Petryshen know if you would like to attend so we can book a spot.

Money counters/Tellers needed. Training provided previous money handling experience is an asset, please let Eric in the office know thank you very much.

If you ordered pictures they are in the office please stop by and pick them up. If you would like your picture in the directory and didn't get a chance to get your picture taken here, you can send it to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com Photo directories will not be available until the new year.

### **Other News**

Out Of The Cold As you may have heard, Fredericton's Out of the Cold Shelter for 2019/20 is expected to open on Friday, December 6 at 332 Brunswick Street. Donations of various items are needed in order to provide a welcoming space for the guests who will use the shelter. The list of items that are currently needed can be found at <https://www.roadhomefredericton.com/out-of-the-cold.html>. Donations can be dropped off at Wilmot United Church, Carleton Street door, Monday thru Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm until Friday, December 20. Financial donations are also appreciated. Any support you can provide for the most vulnerable in our community will be greatly appreciated.

Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church is hosting an Old Fashioned Community Carol Sing (Traditional Christmas Carols) on Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 pm with Special Guests, Lintuhtine Ensemble and Ron and Helen McKinnon-Bagnell. A Free Will Offering at the door will be donated to the Fredericton Emergency Shelters.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there:  
give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the rose is on the way.

### **Welcome & Announcements**

**\*Gathering Hymn:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1,2,4,6,7) VU 1

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

A voice cries out—a voice in the wilderness, yearning for dramatic and prophetic change, the change needed for peace.

**Voices still cry from the cities, suburbs, and towns for God's shalom.**

We are watching and waiting, for God's inbreaking and the signs that God's promises are being fulfilled.

**We gather to worship, seeking God's peace to touch us, to change us.**

We come, before God, in wonder and awe as we wait for Christ who will usher in a new order.

**We come to worship Christ, who is the Prince of Peace.**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Story Time Verse:** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (vs 1) VU 58

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is born for all.  
Christ the babe is born for all!**

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

**Story Time Verse:** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (vs 2) VU 58

**Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping  
vigil till the morning new saw the glory,  
heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you.  
Christ the babe was born for you!**

**Prayer of Illumination (Unison):**  
**Speak to us, Lord.**  
**Speak to us in the waiting, the watching,**  
**the hoping, the longing,**  
**the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing.**  
**Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days,**  
**and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.**

**Today's Scripture:** Isaiah 40:1-11  
This is the Word of the Lord. Jenn Petryshen

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** A Shoot Shall Come Forth Horn  
**Message** **Comfort, O Comfort**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn:** There's a voice in the wilderness **VU 18**

\* **Invitation to the Offering**

For all that we are  
**Thank you, God of peace.**

For all that we have  
**Thank you, God of peace.**

For all that we are becoming-  
**Thank you, God of peace.**

Our offering we now make, from the blessings you have given us  
**Thank you, God of peace.**

**Offertory** In Dulci Jubilo Bach  
\* **Dedication Verse:** All Poor Ones (vs 1) **VU 68**

**All poor ones and humble and all those who stumble,**  
**come hastening, and feel not afraid;**  
**for Jesus, our treasure, with love past all measure,**  
**in lowly poor manger was laid.**  
**Though wise men who found him**  
**laid rich gifts around him,**  
**yet oxen they gave him their hay,**  
**and Jesus in beauty accepted their duty;**  
**contented in manger he lay.**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the people and Lord's Prayer**  
**SENDING FORTH**

\* **Closing Hymn:** Go Tell it on The Mountain **VU 43**

\* **Commissioning (Responsive):**

We go from worship to waiting  
**But not a passive waiting**  
Let your words and actions testify to God's promise  
For the peace of God is coming and is here  
**We are bearers of God's peace**  
**Workers of the promise**  
**So that hope and joy**  
**Love and mercy may reign.**  
**Amen.**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Choral Closing:** Peace be with you **MV 215**  
**Peace be with you, peace for ever, peace be with you, my**  
**friends. till we meet again, may God be with you. Peace,**  
**peace, peace.**

**Postlude** Echo Noel D'Aquin  
Announcements

**Greeters:** Etta Davis and Barb MacBean  
**Collectors Upstairs:** Hope Brewer and Darrell Bruce  
**Downstairs:** **Left Side:** John Gaskin and Roger Miller  
**Middle:** Isabel Green  
**Right Side:** Tammy Coughlan & Dean Jones  
**Coffee Hour (December 15th):** UCW

**Services & Activities**

St Paul's United Children's Handbell Choir has started Sunday's 10-10:30. This program is for children 6 years of age and older. Contact Tricia Berry tmberry@rogers.com .

**Reflective Bible Study and Prayer Group** Sundays at 9:15 am in the office. Tammy Landry is hosting. Come enjoy the scripture

Today in Sunday School: Church Communities Celebrate Jesus.  
Verse of the Month: "The angel said, 'Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people.'" (Luke 2:10) Bible Story : Matthew 1:18-24 Joseph's Story : In a dream, an angel spoke to Joseph about Mary and the birth of Jesus and told him not to be afraid. When Joseph woke up, he did exactly what the angel had told him. Joseph took care of Mary and her baby, and he was a good father to Jesus.