

St. Paul's United Church

December 24th, 2019 – 7pm Christmas Eve

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.

Prelude: O Holy Night Adam

Greeting (Responsive):

I greet you in the name of the One born this night; Jesus, our Emmanuel. 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.

Candle Lighting Liturgy:

We have been waiting for this night,
the time when Christ would come.

As we waited we leaned into the promises of God.

We have kept watch for and kindled God's hope, peace, joy and love.

We have come to tonight,
ready and open, longing for Emmanuel, God with us.

This is the light that scatters the darkness, the light of Christ,
the light eternal.

Candle lighting sung response: People look east (VS5) VU9

**Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.**

**Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.**

**People, look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.**

Call to worship:

This is a night so full of mystery and awe.

The night when a new star shown in the sky.

The night shepherds left their sheep to follow an angel's call,
and a baby's birthing cry changed the world.

Tonight is the night when we hear angels singing and can't help but respond.

**And so we come, in search of Emmanuel and the hope,
peace, joy and love he brings.**

2019 Lights for St Paul's

In Memory of

Deceased UCW members

Peter Richardson

Terry Pond

Doug Dyck

Pam Morden

Fraser Ervin

Betty Ervin

Kevin Ervin

M. Dale Green

Clayton & Jean Liston

Charles & Nora Lamont

Anna Christie

Anna Loane

Loved Ones

Judy Dobbin

Aaron Mintz

Jeff McGuigan

Byron & Muriel Gordon

Grace & Charles Spencer

Carl Thibault

Mark Neadow

Joseph PHG Chauvin

Mary Ralston

Ora Johnston

Jim Johnston

Phyl & Don Peacock

Joyce & Jack Allison

Harriet & Claude Parker

Shirley MacLeod

Arloa & Fred LeBlanc

Jim Grant

Donated by:

St. Paul's UCW

Marg Allen

Jane Blakely & Family

Alexis Ervin

Isabel Green

Linda Lamont

Marilyn Brewer

Ron & Lynne Naugler

Jennifer Petryshen

Mel & Barb McGuigan

Graeme & Susan Spencer

Donna Chauvin

Dow Johnston & Family

Carole Peacock

Debbie Allison

**Hannah, Kirsten &
Bexie Simpson**

Kelly Simpson

Derrick & Lori Grant

St. Paul's Contact Information

stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com www.stpaulsunited.ca

Tel. 458-1183 Fax: 458-1944

<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

Responsive

Rev. Michelle

office Hours

Rev. Richard

Cell: (506)259-7602 *Eric Hotte* *On Sabbatical*

Sun.: By Appointment 11:30-1:30 until February

Mon.: 10:30-12 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

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

Our **Awesome Pantry Team** has the current need for coffee, cheezwhiz, pasta sauce, house hold cleaner, large juice, tomatoes, and soda crackers. Thank you very much

Mark your new 2020 calendar now! **January 12th after church - Potluck and Annual Planning meeting** for everyone! sustaining and growing St. Paul's together. More details to follow.

Broadview (Observer Subscriptions) if you would like your subscription renewed or to start one for 2020 please come see Eric in the office. Thank you

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

A donation has been made in Loving Memory of Donald & Audrey McGuiren from Connie, Bob & Children

There has been a \$100 donation to the memorial chimes fund in loving memory of the Blackmer family by Delores Blackmer.



Gathering hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory VU 36

Prayer of Approach.

Hymn: O Come all ye faithful (VS1,3,5) VU 60

Time for the young among us:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly VU 58

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7 Linda Lamont

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Solo Ava Maria Schubert
Muriel Falkenstein

Reflection: Something about Mary

Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem VU64

Scripture: Luke 2:8-19 Lynn Naugler

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection: Shepherds among us

Hymn: What Child is This? VU 74

Invitation to offering:

Offertory: Basque Carol Tucker

Dedication verse: In the Bleak mid Winter (VS4) VU55

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

Prayer of dedication: Unison

Loving and gracious God., you have given the world the most precious gift- yourself in Jesus Christ. May our gifts and our lives be a reflection of that gift. May we, too, bring light to the world by what we do here tonight and always. Receive these gifts offered in Jesus name. This we pray Amen.

Prayers of the people and Lord's prayer:

Jesus was born into an unjust world, to demonstrate the peculiar nature of your justice, O God. May the wonder of this gift shake us once more out of our routine, and amaze us with the depth of your love for us. Incarnate God,

Hear our prayer.

A bed meant for hay became your own, O Lord, and a shelter for animals was your first nursery. Give us humble hearts after your own, to live among your fellow creatures as sisters and brothers of one compassionate creator. Incarnate God,

Hear our prayer.

To young, unmarried, uncertain and expectant parents you were born, gracious Lord. Break into our world in unassuming places, at surprising times and in unconventional ways to remind us that your kingdom is anything but ordinary. Incarnate God,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the healing presence of your Spirit with all those who long for relief and release this night, especially we remember those who are missing loved ones this year, who are facing illness and feel like they are fighting themselves. Incarnate God,

Hear our prayer.

For all your humble, unnamed servants who enable your work to be done and your will to arise in the furthest corners of the world, we give you thanks. Incarnate God,

Hear our prayer.

Hymn: Hark! the Herald Angels sing **VU48**

Lighting of the Memorial Candles & the Sharing of the Light

Hymn: Silent Night: **VU67**

Commissioning and Benediction

Go forth into the world, knowing that "God is with us" to lighten the darkness of our lives, which in turn calls us to lighten the darkness in the lives of others. Carry the light of Christ with you this Christmas Eve.

Let the light fill our homes and our lives.

Let the light brighten our darkness.

So that the hope peace, joy and love of the Christ Child lights our road not just tonight but forevermore. Amen

*** Choral Closing: Joy to the world (VS1,4) **VU59****

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King!**

**Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**He rules the earth with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Postlude Toccata on "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" **Long**

Announcements

Greeters: Hannah, Kirsten & Bexie Simpson
Collectors Upstairs: Susan and Graeme Spencer
Downstairs: Left Side: Linda and Alastair Lamont
Middle: Isabel Green
Right Side: Larry Buick and Roger Miller
Coffee Hour (January 5th): Positive Engagement

Bulletins placed in Loving Memory of Shirley and Dr. E.H. Sutherland by their granddaughters Claire and Kate Green.

Services & Activities

Office Hours: The office will be open Dec 30th and 31st 9-1pm. Then Closed Jan 1st until Sunday January 5th. For pastoral emergencies call Rev. Michelle 506-259-7602.

More Worship! come out tonight for our 11pm communion service.

December 29th service will be at Wilmot UC @ 11am it will be Rose- Hanna's last service.

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

Taxable Donations: All donations that you wish to have included in your 2018 tax receipt needs to reach the office by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31.