

# St. Paul's United Church

December 22nd, 2019 – 4th 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.

*Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord! - Psalm 113*

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

**Prelude:** Sussex Carol Tucker

### **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**

New life is coming.

**We can count it in days now.**

God is breaking through.

**God's Word will change the world.**

We will all be changed by the Language of Love.

**The covenant has come down through the generations.**

The love of God is never-ending.

**We give thanks for God's faithfulness.**

Today we light the candle of Love.

**We give thanks for God's steadfast Love.**

\* **Sung Response: People Look East (Vs 1,2,3,4)**

**VU 9**

## St. Paul's Contact Information

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**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

	<b>Office Hours</b>	<b>Responsive office Hours</b>	<b>Rev. Richard</b>
<b>Cell:</b>	(506)259-7602	Eric Hotte	On Sabbatical
<b>Sun.:</b>	By Appointment	11:30-1:30	until February
<b>Mon.:</b>	10:30-12 pm	10-1	1st 2020
<b>Tues.:</b>	By Appointment	10-1	
<b>Wed:</b>	10:30-12:30 pm	10-1	
<b>Thurs.:</b>	12-2 pm	10-1	
<b>Friday:</b>	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>Saturday</b>	10 am-noon	Tae kwon do
<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am	Bible Study - Conference Room

*The*  
**JOY**  
OF THE  
*Lord*  
IS YOUR  
**STRENGTH**  


**Welcome & Announcements**

\***Gathering Hymn:** It came upon a midnight clear

VU44

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

The day is coming.

**The day proclaimed by prophets and promised by angels.**

So, we gather,

**to sing of God's steadfast love and marvel at God's faithfulness.**

To be filled with God's spirit, as Mary was so long ago.

**That we may be part of God's love being brought into the world.**

In coming we find God's favor, in worship we experience God's love.

**Draw close, for now is the time to worship.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Children's Bells:**

**Baptism of Charlotte Madeleine Murray**

**Children's Choir:** Come Sing with the Angels

**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:** Luke 1:26-49

Mary Dingee Jacobs

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**

Dancing Into the Promise

Beall & Carter

**Message**

**Chris Walker**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn:**

A child in Galilee

MV 134

\* **Invitation to the Offering**

For all that we are,

**thank you, God of Love.**

For all that we have,

**thank you, God of Love.**

For all that we are becoming,

**thank you, God of Love.**

Our offering we now make, from the blessings you have given us,

**thank you, God of Love.**

No height  
nor depth,  
nor any other  
created thing,  
shall be able  
TO SEPARATE  
us from the  
love of God  
which is in  
Christ Jesus  
our Lord.

ROMANS 8:39

**Offertory** And Glory Shone Around Page

\* **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: The Winter's Snow VU76

\* **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 joy of God is coming and is here.  
**We are bearers of God's joy,  
workers of the promise,  
so that hope and peace,  
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** Toccata on God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Payne  
Announcements

Greeters: Frank & Anna Goddard  
Collectors Upstairs: Susan and Graeme Spencer  
Downstairs: Left Side: Linda and Alastair Lamont  
Middle: Isabel Green  
Right Side: Gail and Ralph Stephenson  
Coffee Hour (January 5th): Positive Engagement

### Services & Activities

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

**December 29th Sunday service** will be at Wilmot United Church it will be Rose-Hanna's last service, it will be a special event don't miss out.

**Christmas Eve Services** 3pm family service, 7pm traditional with candle lighting, 11pm communion service.

**The week of Christmas** the office will be open Dec 23rd,24th as normal. Then open again Dec 30th, 31st 9-1pm then closed until Sunday January 5th.

**St Paul's Yarn Ministry** meets on the third Wednesday of each month. Please let Jen Petryshen know if you would like to attend.

*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: Luke 2:5-7 Jesus Is Born: Mary gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him up snugly and laid him in a manger used for feeding the animals.*

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

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

**Christmas Eve Services** 3pm family service 7pm traditional with candle lighting 11pm communion service.

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

# *Baptism of Charlotte Madeleine Murray*

## **Statement of Purpose**

Sisters and Brothers, the sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the Grace of God.

By water and the Spirit, we are called claimed and commissioned: we are called God's own, welcomed as children of God; we are claimed by Christ, united with Christ, united with one another and the Christian community of every time and place; we are commissioned to Christ's ministry of love, Peace, and justice, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the church in the world.

## **Presentation of Candidate**

On behalf of the congregation of St. Paul's United Church, I present for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism Charlotte Madeleine Murray daughter of Jordan La Perriere Murray and Jill Katherine Murray

## **Profession of Faith and Promises of Parents**

### **\*Congregational Commitment**

As St. Paul's United Church, do you commit yourselves to welcoming Charlotte as one who belongs to the household of faith in Christ, to support and nurture this family while they are in our midst, that they may experience your love through this community?

We do, by the grace of God.

Affirmation of Faith

VU 918

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating, who has come in  
Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in  
Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and  
resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water**

### **The Act of Baptism**

#### **Baptism in the Name of the Triune God**

Charlotte Madeleine Murray I baptize you,  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

May the blessing of God, Source of Love,  
Jesus Christ, Love incarnate,  
and the Holy Spirit, Love's power,  
be with you today and always, Amen.

#### **Marking with the Sign of the Cross**

#### **Laying On of Hands**

#### **Lighting of a Candle**

#### **Blessing**

May the blessing of God, Source of Love, Jesus Christ, Love incarnate, and the Holy Spirit, Love's power, be with you today and always. Amen

#### **Declaration and Congregational Welcome**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit, we are all baptized into one body. We are children of the one God, Mother and Father of us all.

**Into the household of faith, we welcome you with joy and thanksgiving. We are members of the Body of Christ. We are inheritors of God's promise. In the name of Christ, we welcome you.**

#### **Presentation of the Baptized to the Congregation**

#### **Blessing**

The grace of Christ attend us,  
**the love of God surround us,**  
the Holy Spirit keep us,  
**today and always, Amen**

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