

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**

**Fredericton, N.B.**

*Glorifying God through Worship, Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ  
and Serving others in Christ's name*

**January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**10:30 AM**

**2nd Sunday After Epiphany**

*Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives sleep to his beloved. - Psalm 127:1-2*

**GATHERING TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE:**

**GREETING:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The Love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you  
**And also with you.**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Responsive)

The psalmist writes "better is one day in your house than thousand's elsewhere"

**So we come today, intentionally inviting God's presence into our houses,  
We come to dwell with the Lord.**

We come seeking respite from a world where we are only what we produce

**We come just as we are, already known by God, to laydown our burdens and present our offerings to the one who created, redeems and sustains us.**

We come to worship God!

**TURNING TO GOD IN PRAYER:**

**HYMN:** *Morning Has Broken*

**VU 409**

Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**TIME FOR ALL AGES:**

**PREPARING FOR SCRIPTURE:** *Open Our Hearts*

**MV 21**

Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you, O loving God  
Open our hearts.

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *John 2:13-25***

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church  
**Let us respond in the Spirit.**

**MESSAGE:**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**A NEW CREED:**

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 DEDICATION: (Together)**

**Loving God by your generosity we have received  
all that we have and all that we are. Give us wisdom,  
that we may so use the things which you have gifted us with in ways  
that shape us as your children. That we may be bearers of your spirit  
and truth. Grant that the love of Jesus Christ may shine in all we do.  
Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**Our Father who Art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name  
Thy kingdom come thy will be done  
on Earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver Us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

**HYMN: *The Church of Christ in Every Age***

**VU 601**

The church of Christ in every age,  
beset by change but Spirit led,  
must claim and test its heritage  
and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street  
the victims of injustice cry  
for shelter and for bread to eat,  
and never live until they die.

Then let the servant church arise,  
a caring church that longs to be  
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,  
can cure the fever in our blood,  
and teach us how to share our bread  
and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve  
in full obedience to our Lord:  
to care for all without reserve  
and spread Christ's liberating word.

**COMMISSIONING:** (Responsive)

In worship we remember that we are more than just consumers of our faith

**We belong to God and are part of Christ's body alive in the world.**

Into the world we are released to serve our God

**We go to overturn the tables that keep people knowing God's love and grace.**

Our worship has ended yet our daily service has just begun so share your love and life just as Christ did. Trust also in Christ's promise to never leave you or forsake you – stand affirmed in the love of God, the Grace of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen!**

**BENEDICTION:**

**POSTLUDE:**

**SCRIPTURE READERS**

Narrator – Gracelyn Godin

Jesus – Carole Peacock

Jews – Donna Chauvin

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Good morning and welcome to EVERYONE.** May this worship service be a blessing in your day as we continue to worship together each week by Zoom.

Just a friendly reminder that the **office hours are from 8am – 3pm Monday through Friday.** Please note that Thursday is a big day in the office, if you could shift your business to another day, it would be appreciated. Thanks!

**New Building Safety & Security Measures: Starting Thursday January 13,** each person **entering and exiting the building will complete the new Daily Building Security Record** in the binder at **both the York and Charlotte Street entrance.** This will allow for better safety and security of both the building and people in it should an emergency happen. Please remember to sign both in and out regardless of your nature in the building.

**Pantry: The pantry needs some vital items including:** cheez whiz, L size juice, dish & laundry detergent, instant coffee, sugar, pudding cups, fruit cups, pancake mix & syrup. Donations can be dropped off anytime during office hours or on Sunday. Thank you in advance for your amazing generosity!

**Annual Committee Reports:** If you are a committee chair, please forward your year-end reports to Meghan in the church office at [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com)

**Nominations for Committees and Board:** Beginning at the Annual Meeting we will identify and affirm those who have been called to leadership at St Paul's. Help discern the path forward for the congregation by offering to serve on the board, be part of the hands and feet response to needs of our church through a committee. God called Abraham and Sarah in their 90's, God called the boy Samuel as a child – you are neither too old or too young to serve! The big question is what are you passionate about? Talk with Rev. Michelle or Member of the board today!

**Offering Envelopes:** Your offering envelopes are available for pickup or delivery! Please contact Meghan to arrange a suitable process to get them to you in the near future.

**2022 Budget:** We are preparing our new budget! The **first step involves receiving your suggestions** to Increase Revenue! This is crucial so we can estimate our expenses. Please contact Ron at 454-4628 or by email at [rnaugler@bellaliant.net](mailto:rnaugler@bellaliant.net) so we may receive YOUR VALUABLE INPUT!

**FundScrip:** The deadline for the first order of the 2022 will be **February 6**.  
Deadlines for future orders will be the **first Sunday of each month**.  
**Remember, shopping is fundraising for St. Paul's.**

**Upper Room Daily Devotional** for January-February 2022 can be purchased in the Church office Monday-Friday between 8am and 3pm

**Faith in Action** – Christianity at its core is about relationship, relationship within the Godhead, God's relationship with us, our relationships with others. As we approach 100 hospitalizations in the province and face increased response to try and address the strain of COVID, we want to be prepared to help each other through it. Contact during lockdown is so important, when COVID started we created a phone tree. We are looking for both volunteers to call and for people to indicate if they would like a friendly check-in. We also still have an ongoing list for making meals or picking up supplies. If you would be willing to participate in these simple acts of service, please give Meghan a call at 458-1183. If you would benefit from receiving some help, please contact Rev. Michelle 259-7602.

**St. Paul's Contact Information**

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday; 8:00a.m. – 3p.m.**

**224 York St., Fredericton, N.B. E3; Tel: 458-1183.**

**Web-site: [www.stpaulsunited.ca](http://www.stpaulsunited.ca); email: [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com)**

**Minister**

**Organist**

**Church Administrator**

**Church Custodian**

**Rev. Michelle Armstrong**

**Dr. Sharon Pond**

**Meghan Roebuck**

**Rusty Blakely**

***Land Acknowledgement :***

*We remember that St. Paul's sanctuary and our worship here is on the unceded territory of the Wolastoqey peoples. Long before this building was here, the land was considered sacred and tended to with respect and care. May our faith drive us to seek to be in right relationship with the first peoples of this land.*

