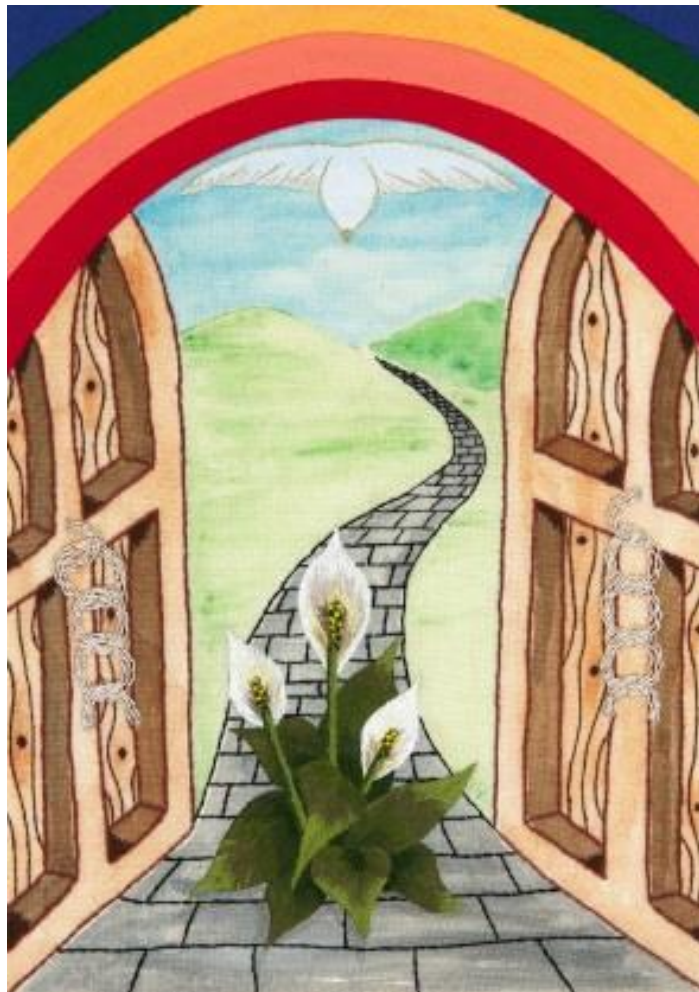


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH  
Fredericton, N.B.  
Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 10:30 AM

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**World Day of Prayer 2022**  
**England, Wales & Northern Ireland**  
**“I Know the Plans I Have for You”**



*WDP 2022 Artist:*  
*Angie Fox*

## WORSHIP SERVICE

### PRELUDE:

**WELCOME AND GREETING:** Led By Ann Raper

**HYMN:** Be Thou My Vision - Video

**OPENING PRAYER:** (Responsive) - Led by Donna Chauvin

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, God said, 'Let there be light!'

*First candle is lit by Donna Chauvin*

**God, giver of life,  
we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people as we watch and wait  
for your plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

**God of hope, in our busy-ness may we find space  
to see you at work in our lives and our world.  
May we be people who radiate your hope  
as we worship in celebration today. Amen.**

*Second candle is lit by Donna Chauvin*

**God, giver of life, we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people  
as we watch and wait for your plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND AFFIRMATION:** (Responsive) - Led by Joan MacCurrie of Morning Gate Church

God told the people of Judah to care for both the people and the place of exile. Often, we fall short of caring for God's world and God's people. Let us bring those times to God and ask forgiveness. (short pause)

Merciful God, we come to you in confession.

We are aware that much of the suffering our sisters and brothers around the world face is a result of our colonial past. We acknowledge this and are sorry that, as a country, we have often put ourselves first, at the expense of others.

*(Silence)*

Gracious God, forgive us

**God, in your mercy, forgive us**

We think of your beautiful world and how we have taken it for granted and squandered its resources.

*(Silence)*

Generous God, forgive us

**God, in your mercy, forgive us**

Our sisters and brothers cry out to you; we have failed to love them well. We have not loved our neighbours as you have taught us. Sometimes we have not even loved ourselves.

*(Silence)*

Compassionate God, forgive us.

**God, in your mercy, forgive us.**

*(Silence)*

**God, in your mercy, help us to act on your call for repentance.**

*(Silence)*

Jesus, thank you that through your sacrifice we are forgiven.

Holy Spirit transform our hearts and minds, so that we may live and love as Jesus showed us.

**Amen**

**VOICES OF WOMEN:** Video

*The third candle is lit*

**God of love,  
we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people  
as we watch and wait for your  
plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

**STORIES OF HOPE:** Video

**Lina's Story:**

*The fourth candle is lit*

**God of care,  
we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people  
as we watch and wait for your plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

**Natalie's Story:**

*The fifth candle is lit*

**God of tenderness,  
we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people  
as we watch and wait for your plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

**Emily's Story:**

*The sixth candle is lit*

**God of compassion,  
we light a candle of hope  
to celebrate with all your people  
as we watch and wait for your plans and promises to be fulfilled.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:** Led by Khris Grant

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light ...

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

God's promises of freedom, forgiveness, justice, and peace are fulfilled in Jesus, the life-giving light which even the deepest darkness cannot extinguish. Through Jesus we are able to come close to God and discern God's plans for us. Let us pray...

God of the past, the present and the future,  
we thank you that you love us faithfully and uniquely.  
You loved us before we knew anything about you:  
you care for us in every moment of our lives;  
you know our deepest thoughts, our highest hopes, and our greatest fears;  
you know the best and the worst in us, and still, you love us.  
Thank you that you never let us go.  
Thank you for the plans and promises you have made for us,  
which give us hope for today and tomorrow.  
God of our past, our present and our future,  
receive our thanks and praise,  
which we offer in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

**HYMN:** Great is Thy Faithfulness - Video

**SCRIPTURE READING:** *Jeremiah 29: 1 – 14* – Led by Nancy Gilbert of Wilmot United

**DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE:** Video

**REFLECTION and RESPONSIVE ACTION:** Led by Pauline Bourque of St. Francis of Assisi

*The seventh candle is lit by Ann Raper*

**God, giver of life,  
we light a candle of hope  
and participate with all your people  
in responsive prayerful action  
to bring to life the plans and promises you have for us**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** (Responsive) – Led by Carole Peacock  
For all who are hungry, who do not have enough to live with dignity;  
that they may find generosity in their communities.

*Silence*

**God, in your mercy, together we say  
Hear our prayer**

For all who are abused in any way,  
whose homes or places of study or work are places not of safety but of fear;  
that they may be strengthened and freed from abusers and fear.

*Silence*

**God, in your mercy, together we say  
Hear our prayer.**

For all who live in loneliness or isolation;  
that they may know friendship and community.

*Silence*

**God, in your mercy, together we say  
Hear our prayer**

For all who are shunned, from whom people turn away;  
that they may be included and know themselves loved as children of God.

*Silence*

**God, in your mercy, together we say  
Hear our prayer.**

For all who have been displaced, who live in exile and in fear  
of losing everything they have ever known;  
that they may know God's peace and strength in their lives.

*Silence*

**God, in your mercy, together we say**

**Hear our prayer.**

God of the past, the present and the future,

This day we raise our concerns for our sisters and brothers in the Ukraine and the surrounding countries in their fear and distress. We pray too for all other regions of the world where there is conflict, unrest or oppression.

We pray that reconciliation will overcome hatred,  
peace will conquer war, hope will replace despair  
and that your plans for the world and for us its people will be fulfilled,

**God, in your mercy, together we say**

**Hear our prayer.**

Let us commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. In the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** Led by Carole Peacock

**OFFERING PRAYER:** Video

**SONG:** *For Surely I Know the Plans that I Have for You* - Video

***For surely I know the plans I have for you.  
The Lord said: Surely I know the plans I have for you.  
Plans for your welfare, plans to not harm you,  
And to give you hope again.  
For surely I know the plans I have for you. (Repeat)***

-Words & music: Lucy Hole, composed for the 2022 WDP program ©WDPIC used with permission

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING:** Video

**HYMN:** How Great Thou Art - Video

**BLESSING AND DISMISSAL:** (Responsive) – Led by Donna Chauvin

Let us go in peace hope and love.

**Amen**

**POSTLUDE:**

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**GREETERS:** *Khris Grant, Donna Chauvin, Ann Raper*

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## **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 in person and by Zoom.

**Daylight Savings Time Change This Sunday!** Please note that we “**Spring Forward**” this Sunday so **set your clocks ahead an hour** either Saturday before going to bed or when you awake Sunday morning. Don't be late for service!

**Special Offering – World Day of Prayer:** This Sunday there will be special offering envelopes for World Day of Prayer. The funds raised are used to provide grants to projects that empower women and children here in Canada and throughout the world.

**Charitable Tax Receipts:** Tax receipts are available in the Narthex or the office. Any that remain in-house after Sunday will be mailed. Please double check you tax receipt amount and contact Meghan with any discrepancies.

**Upper Room Daily Devotional:** The Upper Room Daily Devotional for **March-April** has arrived! Available for purchase in the office for \$2.

**Bible Study:** Join Rev. Michelle on Wednesdays at 11:15am for bible study. This coming week's scripture is Sunday, John 13:1-17. Due to interest we will attempt a hybrid bible study to join online you can log on using this **new link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967> and **Passcode: 259190**

**Pantry:** Items that are need this week are **sugar, miracle whip, cheese whiz and cake mix.** Thank you for your continued generosity.



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### **St. Paul's Contact Information:**

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

**Minster:** Rev. Michelle Armstrong; **Organist:** Dr. Sharon Pond  
**Church Administrator:** Meghan Roebuck; **Custodian:** 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.