

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

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

April 17th , 2022

Easter Sunday

10:30 AM

*I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad. Psalm 118:21-24*

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Crown Him with Many Crowns - Gaspard

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

At Christmas, Hope was born in the manger,

On Friday, Hope was lost on the cross.

**Until this moment we stood still
and we held our breath,
wondering if we would have hope again.**

But today it is Easter!

Miraculously what was dead is alive again!

We can breathe again!

Hope is alive!

Jesus lives again!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

Christ is risen, indeed!

HYMN: *Jesus Christ has Risen Today*

VU 155

*Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!*

*But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!*

*Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!
praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!
praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!*

OPENING PRAYER: *

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

CHOIR ANTHEM: This Joyful Eastertide - Powell

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: John 20:1-18

REFLECTION:

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (In Unison)

Merciful God, we don't always recognize Christ,
even when we are looking directly at your Incarnate Love.
We cling to our assumptions about how life on earth should unfold,
forgetting that life in your realm shatters those expectations.
Forgive us, when we go through our daily routine,
forgetting to look for the Risen One.
Forgive us, when coming to worship is more about seeing our friends
than it is about encountering You - our Resurrected Lord.
Open our eyes and our hearts, O God,
to the full awareness of your presence with us in every moment of our lives.
Open our eyes and heart to your great love for each and every one of us.
Open our eyes and hearts that we may embrace for ourselves a resurrected life.
We pray, in the name of the Christ who is alive.
Alleluia and Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (Responsive)

The stone is rolled away – **we are released!**
The tomb is empty – **we can be free!**
Christ is risen – **we can be fully alive!**
Thanks be to God!

HYMN: *Thine Is The Glory*

VU173

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.*

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

*Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting. R*

*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. R*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE:

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING: (Responsive)

The God of every morning be with you

And also with you

This Easter morning lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the One who has risen Jesus from the grave

Risen with Christ we give thanks and praise to the One who gives us new life

It is right to praise the God of everlasting love with shouts of Hallelujah

On this day of joy and hope

Redeemer of the lost

We sing our praise to you

You reached down and gathered up the dust of creation,

Forming us in your image

And breathing life into us

Yet that day came when we chose to turn from you

Believing our wisdom was superior

To your will for us

You sent the prophets

To speak of your gracious hope

But we refused to listen

When you could have let us remain

In the clutches of sin and death

You sent Jesus to be one of us,

So we could come home to you.

Your Word shattered the silence of a still night with a cry,

as that baby grew your wisdom and grace flowed forth like a river,

**When we denied the Truth he spoke and sought to silence him, you wouldn't let that hate
be the last word.**

Therefore we join our voices this morning,

With those who stand at the empty tomb

In ever time and place

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of the empty grave

Glad songs of joy in the resurrection are offered to you

Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is the One who comes bearing your steadfast love.
Hosanna in the Highest!

Holy are you, God of every day,
And blessed is Jesus Christ, our morning star
Creator of all that is Good,
He entered the shadows of hell
To lead us into hope's light;

Beloved of your heart,
He embraced our sin
So we could be forgiven.
Glory beyond imagination,
He welcomed death
So we could enter life eternal.

INSTITUTION NARRATIVE: (Responsive)

On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.
He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ's life and death, celebrating this day in the light of his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!

PRAYERS AT THE TABLE:

PRAYERS OF INVOCATION:

Send your Spirit again to this place,
that just as many grains become one bread and many grapes become one cup,
we who are many may become one with you and with your people in every time and place.
May this feast nourish us for your kingdom,
and may your kingdom come here and now.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

We pray these and all things in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who is victorious over death and who calls us by name,
and who taught us to pray together,

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

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP: (Responsive)

The body of Christ.

Thanks be to God for the bread of life.

The blood of Christ.

Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Life-giving God,

may we, who share Christ's body,

live his risen life;

we, who drink his cup,

bring new life to others;

we, whom the Spirit lights,

give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,

so that we and all your children shall be free,

and all creation will live to praise your name.

Amen.

HYMN: *Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks*

VU 179

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.
Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Give praise to God's name.*

*Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
firstborn of all creation. R*

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and is risen. R*

*We have been crucified with Christ,
now we shall live for ever. R*

***Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour. R***

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION: (Responsive)

There was darkness over the earth before creation
There is darkness in the womb before birth
The seed grows in darkness before it meets the light
There is darkness in the tomb before resurrection.
But now Christ is Risen!
The light is set free into your life and mine,
Set free for the world!
Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Go now and live that truth
Free and abounding in love
For God has brought victory over death
Christ is Risen!

And so are we!

POSTLUDE: Finale – Vierge

**Adapted from Rev. Teri Paterson bible worm collective.*

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Jane Banks, Mary – Ann Krause, Angels – Alanna Palmer, Jesus – Andrew Steeves
Greeters: Tammy Coughlan & Linda Burton

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.

Good Friday & Easter Monday Office Closure: Just a reminder that the office will be closed this Friday, April 15th and Monday April 18th. It will reopen on Tuesday morning at 8am.

Hybrid Sunday School: We are EXCITED to welcome you back to Sunday School. You can join us in person or through the Zoom platform virtually. For now, our Sunday school lessons will be delivered in a hybrid fashion (simultaneously in person and on Zoom).

Bible Study: Join Rev. Michelle on Wednesdays at 11:15am for bible study. We are back in person, meeting in the parlor. Generally, sessions run 45min-1hour. This coming week's scripture is John 20:19-31. Due to interest, you can also join online. Log in using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967> and Passcode: 259190

Brown Bag Lunch Program: The program needs **cans of proteins with flip top lids such as soups, meats, fish.** Thanks for everything you wish to donate.

Pantry: **The pantry needs pudding cups, large apple & orange juice, macaroni, coffee, regular tea bags, ketchup, mayo and miracle whip, pancake syrup, flour.** Thank you for your continued generosity.

Seasons of Reconciliation: This is a free unique 3-hour self-paced online course that promotes a renewed relationship between Indigenous Peoples and Canadians through transformative learning about truth and reconciliation. **Upon completion of the course, you will be issued a certificate provided by First Nations University of Canada.** If interested in this course, add Erin Haye's email erinhayes@deloitte.ca as the person who referred you to access it. For more information about the course visit <https://www.reconciliationeducation.ca/deloitte>

190th Anniversary: 1832-2022 - For 190 years, St Paul's United Church has adapted with the changing times. And after 2 years of global pandemic influences, we are called to rise to another challenge. Our community of faith is exploring avenues that will lead to greater coordination with other congregations and to greater financial stability through different uses of our property. While these routes are being explored, we need to ground ourselves securely to move forward. The most recent budget calls for **raising \$25,000** in this, our 190th year. 190th Fundraiser ideas and plans are needed. Already, **4** projects have been committed and more are expected - plant sales, hymn sings, raffles, auctions (silent or noisy), breakfasts, and the possibilities go on.

GET STARTED ON A 190th FUNDRAISER NOW - SHARE YOUR IDEAS with DONNA CHAUVIN jogrunt@nbnet.nb.ca 458-5885 or ALANNA PALMER palmeralanna@gmail.com 449-1931. We can help get your seed of an idea to bloom.

TP the Town: Fredericton High School, Student Representative Council, is hosting the 7th annual TP the Town fundraiser with a goal **collecting 25,000 rolls of toilet paper** as well as feminine hygiene products. These will be donated to various service organizations across Fredericton. If you are able to donate any TP rolls, they will be collected in the church office until **May 6th, 2022** when they will be picked up.

NB International Student Program: Open your heart and home to an international student! The NB International Student Program is seeking homestays for visiting international students in middle and high school for short term stays (2-4 months), one semester, and full school year. International students come to improve their English, attend school, and live with a New Brunswick family. Host families provide students with their own bedroom, nutritious meals, WiFi, and welcome the student as a member of their family. Homestay families receive a stipend of \$750/month to cover expenses. For more information, please contact Lucy Rossiter at 292-8348.

St. Paul's UCW: St. Paul's UCW are looking for women interested in taking part in planning and implementation of UCW activities and events. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with other women in the congregation. The United Church Women have a long and proud history of contributing their prayers, gifts, and services for the work of the church. If you have some spare time and would like to join this group of amazing women, please speak with Donna Chauvin or Meghan at stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

Volunteer Registry: We are starting a list of folks whom are available to volunteer for tasks, anything from folding bulletins, helping out in the office, security/supervising the door for our renters or community events; during the day, after hours and weekends. If interested please email the office or speak with Meghan.

Database Update - Personal Contact Information: Please forward your contact information (names of family members, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, envelope # [if known] and whether or not you would like to be included in mailouts or email updates. You can forward this information either by completing a Family Information Form for each member of your household while at the church or by email to Meghan at stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

Bulletin & E-News Announcements Deadline: Please note that going forward, the deadline for all announcements is **Wednesday at 3pm.**

Upper Room Daily Devotional: The Upper Room Daily Devotional for May-June has arrived! Both the May-June and March-April booklets are available for purchase in the office for \$2.



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Contact Information:

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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.