

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

May 15th, 2022

Easter 5

10:30 AM

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. – John 1:16-18

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: The Lost Chord - Kuhe

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 CHRIST CANDLE:

INTROIT: *This Is the Day*

MV 122

*This is the day that God has made;
We will rejoice and be glad!
This is the day that God has made;
We will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad!*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive) *

Come from your familiar and comfortable places,
to look for God in new ways.

**We join our minds and hearts in seeking a glimpse of the One
in whom we live and move and have our being.**

Come with your faith and your curiosity,
to meet others of God's people.

**We take the time to observe and learn,
trusting the Spirit will lead us to common ground.**

Come to be present to all Christ places in your path.

We come, open to meet God, even here.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

*Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!*

*Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one! R*

*Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one! R*

*Called to be partners with God in creation,
honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one! R*

*Bringing the bread and the wine to the table,
asking that we may be led and enabled,
truly united to build new communities,
worship and work must be one! R*

*Now in response to the life you are giving,
help us, O Father, to offer our living,
seeking a just and a healing society,
worship and work must be one! R*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

CHOIR ANTHEM: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy - Schweizer

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: (In Unison)

**O God for whom there are no barriers,
no stones too big to remove,
roll away our resistance to you.
Let your words fill us with new life
and bring us out from the tombs we create,
that we may be alive again in you.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Acts 17:16-31

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: (In Unison) *

O God who breathes life and peace, breathe your blessing on the gifts we offer to you, and make them a force for healing and blessing the world. Combine our offering of money and our offering of ourselves with your power to heal broken hearts and wounded souls; work in and through us, O God to be a blessing for the world. Amen.

PRAYER 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**

*Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page.
Our forebears owned your goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both to this bear witness:
one church, one faith, one Lord.*

*Your heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten
to share the heavenly feast.
And this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one church, one faith, one Lord.*

*Through many days of darkness,
through many scenes of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely
to guard your people's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, earth restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one church, one faith, one Lord.*

*And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored;
we will maintain, unflinching,
one church, one faith, one Lord.*

*Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by earth and heaven,
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem:
one church, one faith, one Lord.*

SENDING FORTH:*

*A world in need now summons us
to labour, love, and give,
to make our life an offering
to God, that all may live.*

*The church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,
all life in Christ made new.*

POSTLUDE: Toccata on Amazing Grace - Pardini

**from our adapted from Rev. Teri Paterson bible worm collective.*

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Jane Blakely, Paul – Barbara Cull-Wilby,
Philosopher #1– Donna Chauvin, Philosopher #2 – Patty Trail
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.

Office Closure: The office will be closed this from Friday May 20th through Monday May 23rd. Happy Victoria Day! For pastoral emergencies, please contact Michelle at 259-7602 or michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com

FundScrip Orders: The deadline for the next FundScrip order is **Sunday, June 5**. Cards will arrive for distribution before Father's Day, June 19. This is also a good time to stock up on cards for your summer travels and shopping! Order forms available in the Narthex, church office or click [here](#). Thank you for your continued support of this fundraising program.

Youth Group for Pre-Teens: Simon Wilby will be starting a Sunday evening youth drop-in program for the pre-teen age group, starting Sunday May 29 @ 6pm. Mark your calendar and keep watch for the time. If you are interested in attending or helping develop this program, please let us know!

Bible Study: What happens when 6-12 people join together to read the bible? Amazing discussion, deepening faith, and connection. Join Rev. Michelle on Wednesdays at 11:15am for bible study. We are back in person, meeting in the board room. Generally, sessions run 45min-1hour. This coming week's scripture is Philippians 1:1-18a. Due to interest, you can also join online. Log in using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967> and Passcode: 259190

Elm City String Quartet: A locally-based string quartet will be performing a concert featuring the works by Ravel & Debussy, at Wilmot United Church on May 13 at 7pm. Admission is \$20, \$10 for students. Tickets can be purchased at <https://elmcitystringquartet.com/events>

Spring Yard Sale at Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church: Yard Sale at 512 Charlotte Street, taking place on Friday, May 13th from 2-7 p.m. and Saturday May 14th, from 9 a.m. – noon. Covid rules apply – masks/appropriate distancing.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: The program needs **juice boxes, pudding cups and cans of proteins with flip top lids such as soups, meats, fish**. Thank you for your donations to this important program.

Pantry: The pantry needs sugar - brown & white, flour, Coffee Mate, puddings, smooth peanut butter, jam, mustard, large juice, aluminum foil, Mr. Clean. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Hybrid Sunday School: We are EXCITED to welcome you 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).

Upper Room Daily Devotional: The Upper Room Daily Devotional for May-June is available for purchase in the office for \$2.

Pentecost/Summer Newsletter: We are putting together another newsletter if you or your committees have anything you would like to share. Committee updates, stories of your faith experiences or celebrations of St. Paul's history, upcoming events. Let Rev. Michelle know by May 22nd.



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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 the right relationship with the first peoples of this land.