

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 8th, 2022

Easter 4

10:30 AM

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. Luke 6:22-23

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Meditation – Priere by Guilmant

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) *

In singing and praying,
give glory to God!
In proclaiming truth,
give glory to God!
In turning over systems of injustice,
give glory to God!
In moments of joy and moments of annoyance,
give glory to God!
In times of success and times of trial,
give glory to God!
In public streets and at home with family,
give glory to God!
In worship right now
give glory to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

*It's a song of praise to the Maker,
The thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
The gray whale sings in the sea,*

*And by the Spirit you and I
Can join our voice to the holy cry
And sing, sing, sing
To the Maker too.*

*It's a call of life to the Giver
When waves and waterfalls roar.
It's a call of life to the Giver,
When high tides break on the shore,*

*And by the Spirit you and I
Can join our voice to the holy cry
And sing, sing, sing
To the Maker too.*

*It's a hymn of love to the Lover,
The bumblebees hum along,
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
The summer breeze joins the song,*

*And by the Spirit you and I
Can join our voice to the holy cry
And sing, sing, sing
To the Maker too.*

*It's the choir us of all creation;
It's sung by all living things,
It's the chorus of all creation;
A song the universe sings,*

*And by the Spirit you and I
Can join our voice to the holy cry
And sing, sing, sing
To the Maker, too.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

CHOIR ANTHEM: The Lord's My Shepherd – Price

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 16:16-34

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

HYMN: *My Life Flows On*

VU 716

*My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far off hymn
that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing:
It finds an echo in my soul -
how can I keep from singing?*

*What though my joys and comforts die?
My Saviour still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round?
A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging:
since Love commands both heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

*When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
and hear their death knells ringing:
when friends rejoice both far and near,
how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile
our thoughts to them are winging:
when friends by shame are undefiled,
how can I keep from singing?*

*I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it;
and day by day this pathway smooths,
since first I learned to love it.*

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing:
all things are mine since I am Christ's –
how can I keep from singing?*

SENDING FORTH:*

CHORAL CLOSING: *As Those of Old Their First-fruit Brought*

VU 518 v2

*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: Prelude in G Major - Bach

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

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Ann Krause, Girl – Chris Grant, Paul – Derrick Grant,
Market – Carole Peacock, Jailer – Deborah West
Greeters: Chris Grant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's bulletin is dedicated In Loving Memory of Audrey McGuire. Love Connie, Bob and family.

FundScrip Orders: Gift cards will be distributed this Sunday, May 8th. If you have questions, speak to Carole Peacock (452-1016 or cpeacock@bellaliant.net).

Mother's Day: This Sunday is Mother's Day! In celebration of this special day and for those moms that have everything, we offer this option to donate to Coverdale Centre for women in Saint John, NB on your mom's behalf. If you are missing your mom today, consider donating in her honour. Your impactful donation will support women in their time of need and expand the circle of love cast by our mothers.
<https://giftswithvision.ca/collections/gifts/products/whatever-they-need-most>

Board Meeting: If anyone has anything to bring to the Board's attention, please email Erin Hayes at hayes.erin11@gmail.com

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 22 at 6:30pm. 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 Acts 17:16-31. 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.

PAR Registration: PAR is an easy way to make your financial contributions to St. Paul's on a monthly basis. This pre-authorized bank withdrawal or credit card payment is processed on the 20th of each month by the UCC and deposited directly to St. Paul's. Please consider joining the PAR participants at St. Paul's and increasing your contribution. Please contact Meghan for registration information at 458-1183 or stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

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.

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).

Pantry: The pantry needs miracle whip, canned ham, cooking oil, Mr. Clean, laundry detergent, peanut butter, Ritz crackers, salt, large juice (1L). Thank you for your continued generosity!

190 YEARS: You are encouraged to add significant events in our congregation's history to the timeline installed in Fraser Memorial Hall. There's a black marker sitting on the ledge just below it. On that same chart, you'll notice that our fundraising efforts have started!

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



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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.