

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 22nd, 2022

Easter 6

10:30 AM

An argument arose among them concerning which one of them was the greatest. But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side and said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me, for the least among all of you is the greatest." - Luke 9:46-48

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 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, Congregation Divided) *

We give thanks for you!

And we give thanks for you!

Seeing you brings joy, for together we share in God's grace.

Seeing you brings hope, for together we share so many stories we can build on.

We hold you in our hearts, praying that you may know life in all its fullness.

We hold you in our hearts, praying that you may bear fruit for Christ's kingdom.

May you overflow with love more and more, as we together seek God's face.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

HYMN: *God of the Bible*

MV 28

*God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
Hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
You are our centre, daylight or darkness,
Freedom or prison, you are our home.*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faith, you do not change.*

*God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
Suffering with us, taking our part,
Still you empower us, mothering Spirit,
Feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faith, you do not change.*

*Those without status, those who are nothing,
You have made royal, gifted with rights,
Chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
Birthing new systems, lighting new lights.*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faith, you do not change.*

*Not by your finger, not by your anger,
Will our world order change in a day,
But by your people, fearless and faithful,
Small paper lanterns, lighting the way.*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faith, you do not change.*

*Hope we must carry, shining and certain,
Through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
Bonding us gladly, one to the other,
Till our world changes, facing the Cross.*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faith, you do not change.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

CHOIR ANTHEM: There Comes a Ship a Sailing - Shepherd

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: Philippians 1:1-18a

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: *We Have This Ministry*

VU 510

*We have this ministry
and we are not discouraged;
it is by God's own power
that we may live and serve.
Openly we share God's word,
speaking truth as we believe,
praying that the shadowed world
may healing light receive.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our living.*

*O Christ, the tree of life,
our end and our beginning,
we grow to fullest flower
when rooted in your love.
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,
called to service by your grace,
different cultures, different gifts,
the young and old a place.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.*

*The yoke of Christ is ours,
the whole world is our parish;
we daily take the cross,
the burden and the joy.
Bearing hurts of those we serve,
wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,
Holy Spirit, bread and wine,
we die and rise again.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.*

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: Concerto II - Bach

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

Scripture Readers: Narrator 1 – Deborah West, Narrator 2 – Chris Grant

Greeter: Linda Burton **Audio Visual:** Rob 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 from Friday May 20th through Monday May 23rd. Happy Victoria Day! For pastoral emergencies, please contact Michelle at 259-7602 or michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com

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.

Youth Group for Pre-Teens: Simon Wilby is starting a Sunday evening youth drop-in program for the pre-teen age group, starting Sunday May 29 from 6:30-7:30pm. Mark your calendar! If you are interested in attending or helping develop this program, please let us know!

Youth Volunteer Opportunities: Are you part of the Youth or a Young Adult? Do you have gifts and talents that can be shared? Do you have spare time this Summer or next Fall?

If so, please contact Rev Michelle, Office Admin or Erin Hayes (hayes.erin11@gmail.com).

List of possible volunteer opportunities:

- Sunday School (Leading, Assisting or Attending)
- Youth Group (Leading, Assisting or Attending)
- Lighting the candle on Sundays
- Environmental Stewardship (generate ideas the church could implement for reducing our ecological footprint)
- Greeters on Sunday
- Scripture Readers on Sunday
- Help with coffee hour after church
- Help folding bulletins or light office duties
- Any other passions you might have!

Bible Study: 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 2:1-13. 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 and drink boxes.** Thank you for your donations to this important program.

Pantry: The pantry is in need of: **pudding, apple sauce, hamburger helper, sugar, jam, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, cookies, soda crackers, coffee mate, Mr. Clean, Comet, dish soap and paper towel.** Thank you in advance for any contributions.

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.

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.



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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.