

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

October 2nd, 2022

World Wide Communion

10:30 AM

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." – Matthew 5:11-12

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Adagio in G Minor - Albinoni

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 THE CHRIST CANDLE:

INTROIT: *Will You Bless Our Homes and Families*

VU 556 vs 1

*Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive) *

Come, for the presence of God leads us.

We come, hopeful even in our uncertainty

Stand Firm, for the presence of God surrounds us.

We stand, for what else can we do?

Go, for the presence pushes us out

We will go, renewed as God's people.

OPENING PRAYER:

HYMN: *This Is The Day That God Has Made*

VU 175

*This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!*

*Christ has conquered death at last,
left the tomb that held him fast!
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,
dawns the morning clear and bright!*

*This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!*

*Jesus lives who once was dead,
lives forever, as he said!
Risen now our Saviour, King;
songs of gladness let us sing!*

*This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

HYMN: *One More Step Along the World I Go*

VU 639 vs 1+4

*One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.*

*Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.*

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (In Unison) *

**Almighty God, you bring new life to birth when all we can see is chaos and loss.
We confess that we have often tried to stop your new thing from coming into being.
We have bought the lie that wealth must be protected with power.
We have trusted that might makes right.
We have believed in our entitlement to others' bodies, labour, and loyalty.
We confess that our hearts have hardened all on their own.**

Forgive us for perpetuating a world of haves and have-nots,
for refusing to allow others to share our bounty or to be one of “us,”
for our part in the destruction of community created in your image.
Forgive us, and replace our hearts of stone with hearts soft and open.
Forgive us, and unbind our imaginations to see your kingdom flourish in all its glory.
Though the power of the Holy Spirit and the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION:

REFLECTION:

HYMN: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

VU 651

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.*

*Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (In Unison) **

God, you have brought us through so much, delivered us from times of trouble, blessed us with what we need. Help us to remain ever mindful that it is to you that we owe everything, even our breath. In gratitude for the countless ways you have been faithful to us, in response we offer you the gifts of our time, talent and treasure. Continue to bless us and what comes from our hands that we may continue to build your kingdom here on earth. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: There Comes A Ship A-Sailing - Shepherd

INVITATION TO THE TABLE: *

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING: *

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
for You are a God who makes a way when there is no way,
who creates paths in the desert and through the sea,
and goes ahead of us to light the path.
We give you thanks, for you brought your people out to new life, and even still you push us on.
When we have been tempted to look only backward,
your pillar of fire and cloud has stood tall and moved us forward.
When we have turned off your path, your prophets have redirected our steps.
When we have believed more in our own power and tried to press our advantage,
your word has brought us back to right relationship with you and our neighbour.
And when we could not imagine the new world you were calling us toward,
you sent your Son, your Word made flesh,
to live among us as a sign of the impossible made possible.
When even in front of our eyes your love was more than we could bear,
he suffered the worst our closed minds could inflict on him,
and to the end he spread his arms wide, beyond what we thought was our limited human capacity.
You raised him to new life, and with him you made us new as well.
And so we offer our praise, and our prayers,
for expansive welcome and gracious presence,
for peace that passes all understanding,
for inclusion and acceptance that surprises us all.
We cannot fathom how you continually bring your people into being,
yet we recognize the community at your table is entirely your doing.

In recognition of this we join our voices to the cry that has echoed throughout time and creation:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Through water and word, grape and grain,
you are once again doing a new thing
that reaches beyond our borders and rules and traditions.
When we are afraid to allow your welcome to be real,
we pray you would make us an answer to our prayers for peace.
When we are at a loss how to deal with so much hunger,
we pray you would make us an answer to our prayers for abundant generosity.

When we are distracted by our nostalgia for good old days that were never truly as good as we remember them,
we pray you would make us an answer to our prayers for a better world for all.
When we are tempted to turn inward and protect our own interests at all costs,
we pray you would make us an answer to our prayers for others.
As we come to your table, whether confidently or haltingly,
reveal to us in the breaking of bread an opening to a new way of living.
As we share this feast with all your people, from east and west, north and south,
whether shyly or joyfully,
reveal to us in the pouring of wine a blessing that cannot be contained.
As once your Son Jesus sat at table in an upstairs room,
telling and re-telling the story of waters parting on the journey to liberation and life,
calling on your Spirit to unlock the mysteries we could not comprehend,
today we too sit at table, trusting that though we can never fully understand,
you will bring us by your Holy Spirit into your people,
one crumb and one drop at a time,
until all are reborn in your Body.

Surrounded by the whole cloud of witnesses, at this common table,
with these common foods set aside for sacred use,
we seek again your promise that all may be one in Christ,
and it is in his name that we join our hearts and voices to pray as he taught us:

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**

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS:

Body of Christ – **Bread for the journey**
Blood of Christ – **Cup of blessing overflowed**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: (In unison)

**We give thanks, almighty God,
That you have refreshed us at your table
By granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.
Strengthen our faith,
Increase our love for one another and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace,
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

*Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come.
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our slavery left behind us,
new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.*

*Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wandering,
for by your light we come,
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.*

*Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters
may journey to that land
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: *

CHORAL CLOSING: *Will You Bless Our Homes and Families*

VU 556 vs 4

*Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.*

POSTLUDE:

**Adapted from Rev. Terry Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy – October 2, 2022*

*** Clergy Stuff worship materials – October 2, 2022*

*Scripture Readers: Narrator – Jane Banks, Officials - Ann Krause, Israelites – Alanna Palmer,
Moses – Deborah West, Lord – Andrew Steeves*

Greeters: Maude McNamara & Florence Bartlett Audio Visual: John Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SUNDAY OCTOBER 2ND

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.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY/NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

If you have not already done so, take your pen and write on September 30th, the word to remember to wear orange. On this day, you are encouraged to wear an orange shirt and to participate in activities to promote awareness of the residential school experience and the impact it had on the indigenous communities over the century. It is also about bearing witness and honouring the healing journey of survivors and their families and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation. The Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action included recognizing a statutory holiday for this purpose. To this end, in solidarity with our first nations people, the national and regional offices of the United Church of Canada and **St. Paul's will be closed on September 30th.**



COVID PROCEDURE UPDATE

The board discussed our COVID protocols, weighing the information from public health, current COVID levels, and feedback received from congregation. As a congregation, we have a shared responsibility to each other. To date we have used the most protective option when dealing with sanctuary and church building. As we start to move to COVID being an endemic disease, the board felt it was time to take a small step towards loosening restrictions. As of this coming Sunday, people are asked to wear masks while moving around the sanctuary/church building, when singing and when social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks may be removed when sitting in your pew and while eating and drinking in the hall. Church meetings where distancing cannot be maintained or where there is poor ventilation, masks will still be required. Should the community COVID situation change drastically, the new policy for masks is not being followed, or public health recommendations change, this decision will be re-evaluated. Please note that public health it is still recommending wearing a mask in public indoors and when social distancing cannot be maintained, to reduce your chances of getting COVID.

FUNDSCRIP ORDERS DUE THIS SUNDAY!



Welcome back to our loyal shoppers who support this fundraising program by purchasing gift cards every month. Deadline for our first fall order is this Sunday, October 2nd. Order forms are available at the church office, in the Narthex or [here](#). Please use a current order form as participating retailers and card values sometimes change. *Remember: Shopping is fundraising for St. Paul's!*

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE NOTICE

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee acts under the guidance of **The Manual** of The United Church of Canada. The committee functions around three roles which are the consultative and supportive role, the healthy relationships role and the supervisory role. We provide resources and support for the staff and the community of faith with respect to any issues affecting staff of our church, including ministry personnel and lay employees. The committee works to build **positive and trusting relationships between staff and members and adherents of the community of faith.**

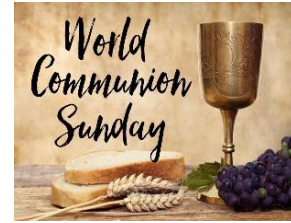
If members of the community of faith have praise or concerns about staff, both ministry personnel and lay employees, these can be shared in signed correspondence with the committee. The issues will be considered confidentially by the M&P Committee, who will recommend action.

St. Paul's United Church is blessed with a staff that is committed to their work and we are thankful for this work in our community of faith.

Presently serving on the committee: Lois Walker, Blaine Irving and Ann Krause

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 2nd is World Wide Communion Sunday. If you or someone you know is unable to get to worship and would like home communion, please contact Rev. Michelle @ 506-259-7602



BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

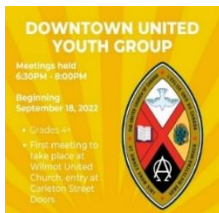
There are many ways to become part of the church, but for all the journey starts with baptism. If you have been baptized as a child, you would confirm your membership when you are able to understand what church membership means. If you are baptized as an adult, your confirmation happens the same day. If you have already been confirmed, you become a member of a different local congregation by transfer or affirmation of faith. Rev Michelle will be hosting baptism, confirmation, and membership classes this October for anyone looking to officially become part of St. Paul's United.

PANTRY PROGRAM

The pantry needs the following items: white sugar, Cheez Whiz, pudding, sardines, flour, juice and canned tomatoes. Thank you for your continued support!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

The Brown Bag Lunch program is running desperately low on supplies. Items in need are: juice boxes, granola bars, pudding and proteins with flip top lids. Thank you for your generosity!



DOWNTOWN UNITED YOUTH GROUP

Downtown United Youth Group welcomes all Children in grades 4 and up are invited to Youth group which will meet 6:30-8:00 PM each Sunday starting September 18th. We are meeting at Wilmot for the Fall. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Erin at Hayes.erin11@gmail.com.

BIBLE STUDY

Diving into scripture is one of the spiritual practices of our faith. The small group setting of bible study helps us to go deeper and explore areas of the text that would not be addressed on Sunday morning. Join Rev. Michelle on Wednesdays at 11:15am for bible study. We meet in the board room. Generally, sessions run 45min-1hour. This coming week's scripture is: Exodus 19:3-7, 20:1-17. You can also join online. Log in using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967>. Passcode is 259190.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALLING CHILDREN AND ADULTS!

School aged children are invited to attend Sunday school running for the 2022/23 year. Please contact Erin Hayes (Hayes.erin11@gmail.com) for any questions about Sunday school. If you are an adult and have talents you wish to share, please see Erin Hayes to sign up to be a guest speaker this year. Are you an artist? Do you like to cook? Are you a good storyteller? Experience with drama or singing? Passionate about woodwork? The possibilities are endless of skills you could share. The model we are using this year means that your commitment could be as little as one day and that there would still be a regular teacher in the room while you are sharing your gifts and skills!

TOONIES FOR ST. PAUL'S!

Hello everyone! Hope you enjoyed the summer. When you were thinking about St. Paul's United Church while sitting on the beach or camping, did you happen to throw a TOONIE into your little vial? Well, now is the time to return those vials, hopefully before the end of September. Please write your name and the dollar amount on your vial. Drop it in the Offering Box on Sunday. This was an Anniversary project and all proceeds are tax deductible. Thank you for your participation. Enjoy the Fall season and hope to see you back to Worship at St. Paul's. Donna Chauvin 458-5885



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2nd – Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Property

October 9th – Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Trustees

October 16th – Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by M&P

October 23rd – Soup and Buns ~ Hosted by the Choir. **Congregational Workshop to follow** – Finding Focus

October 30th – Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Outreach

November 6th – 190th Anniversary Celebration



FLOOR CURLING AT FOREST HILL UNITED CHURCH (FHUC)

Join us from 10 am to noon on Wednesdays at FHUC for floor curling. Instead of ice, broom and flat stones, we use the floor and stones on 3 wheels. They can be thrown the regular way, or by using a stick which goes over the handle. You can be upright or seated to play.

Curling provides gentle exercise in a friendly surrounding. Try it out for two weeks free of charge. The annual cost is 10.00

plus 2.00 each time you come. For more information, please contact Mary or Margie at foresth.office@bellaliant.com or leave your contact information at 455-0988. Covid protocols require hand washing or sanitizing when entering the hall and masking when moving about in the building. FHUC is an accessible location. FHUC is at 45 Kimble Court, around the corner from St. Margaret's Anglican Church and beside the ball diamonds at Bliss Carmen Middle School.

DEATH EXPO

The second annual Death Expo is being held in Fredericton on Thursday, October 20th at the New Maryland Centre from 10 am to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome! Admission is free thanks to a grant from the Horizon Health Network. Over 25 exhibitors will share information and resources for end-of-life care.

This year we have partnered with When You Die, Halifax, to bring a private screening of the film *In The Realm of Death & Dreaming* to Fredericton. Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 pm at the New Maryland Centre. Johanna Lunn, film Director, will be present for a Q&A following the movie. The seating is limited and the fee is \$10. Please register at Eventbrite (<https://bit.ly/3dvo2SO>). Follow us on Facebook at D.I.E. Death Information and Education for updates. For more information contact Anne Marie Hartford at hartfordam@gmail.com or Karen Lake at Hello@KarenLake.ca

RUMMAGE SALE AT WILMOT UNITED

Our yearly rummage sale is approaching. The rummage sale will take place at Wilmot United Church (473 King Street) on: Friday, October 21st from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturday, October 22nd from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

CHILI TAKE-OUT SUPPER!

Delicious Mild Beef Chili Take-Out Supper, Friday, October 21, pick up from 4:00-5:30pm, Nashwaaksis United Church, 46 Main Street. Enjoy mild beef chili, homemade roll, Caesar salad and apple crumble tart for \$15. Reserve your take-out meals by Monday, October 17 with Rindy or Tom Austin, 450-7151.





St. Paul's United Church

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

Contact Information:

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Website: www.stpaulsunited.ca | Tel: 506-458-1183 | E-mail: 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.