

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

September 25th, 2022

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 AM

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. – Matthew 5:11-12

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Allegro - Whitlock

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, all who seek God's blessing.

Come, you who think of yourselves as blessed, and you who feel lost or alone.

Come, you who have it easy, and you who can't get a break.

We come, trusting God is with us, in the good times and in times of trouble.

We come, for God is faithful, and calls forth our faithfulness.

We come, to learn to recognize God's blessing in all its forms.

OPENING PRAYER:

HYMN: *Like A Rock*

MV 92

*Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.*

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: Genesis 39:1-23

REFLECTION:

HYMN: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

VU 806 ~ Psalm 90

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:*

*under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure,
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.*

*Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.*

*A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.*

*Time like an ever-rolling stream
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.*

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (In Unison)

Covenant-Keeping God, whose promise is rock solid, we offer our lives and tokens of our treasure as signs of our commitment to live daily for you. Through the work of your holy Spirit, may we be a blessing to the world, bringing healing, hope and new life as we reach out with your love. This we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Come Down Lord - Pethel

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE:

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: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

VU 288

*Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.*

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!***

***Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow -
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.***

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!***

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: (Responsive) *

In the hardest days and the best moments,

God's blessing be with me.

When you see it and when you don't,

God's blessing be with you.

For receiving and for sharing,

God's blessing be with us.

Go now with God's blessing to live in grace and mercy

Trusting in God's peace and justice. Amen.

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: Allegro Risoluto - Whitlock

**Adapted from Rev. Terry Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy – September 25, 2022*

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Carole Peacock, Joseph – Derrick Grant, Wife – Alanna Palmer

Greeter: Carole Peacock **Audio Visual:** John Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH

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.

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.

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

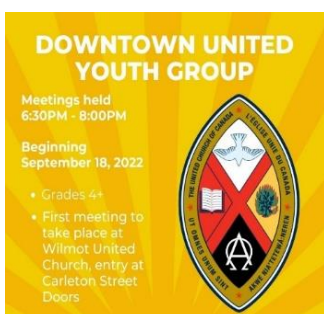
There are many ways to become part of the church, but for all the journey starts with baptism. If you have been baptized as a child, you would confirm your membership when you are able to understand what church membership means. If you are baptized as an adult, your confirmation happens the same day. 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.

SOUP, BUN AND CONGREGATIONAL FUN

This weekend is our first soup, bun and workshop. Even if you are not eating lunch, you are encouraged to join us for this congregational workshop. It will be a chance for us to connect with each other and explore what we value as a congregation. All while having fun. Your participation is vital as we move forward and the board looks at setting direction for the coming years. There is no cost for soup and bun, so come and enjoy. If you would like to make a donation to help off-set the costs, a free will offering basket will be provided. Looking forward to seeing you after worship on Sunday.

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



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 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29. 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



PANTRY PROGRAM

The pantry needs the following items: white sugar, brown sugar icing sugar, oatmeal (bulk), individual instant oatmeal, sardines, canned turkey, coffee whitener, cookies, chunky soup, jello, granola bars, soda crackers, peanut butter, Cheez Whiz, pudding, tea, pick salmon and ketchup. Thank you for your continued support!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

The Brown Bag Lunch program is in need of juice boxes and granola bars. Thank you for your generosity!

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 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.

FUNDSCRIP ORDERS ALMOST DUE!

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!*



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

September 25th – Soup and Buns ~ Hosted by Worship. **Congregational Workshop to follow** – Our Values

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

November 6th – 190th Anniversary Celebration



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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.