

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

January 29th, 2023

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

10:30 AM

Some take pride in chariots and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God. ~ Psalm 20:7

GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE: Faith of our Fathers ~ arr. L Smith

GREETING:

O magnify the Lord with me,

let us exalt God's name together!

Christ is with us

Christ is in our midst.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE: *(Responsive)*¹

We describe the action of light in a variety of ways:

Light that clarifies;

Light that warns us of danger;

Light that guides our footsteps;

Light that reveals our future;

Light that calms our fears;

Light that offers insights.

As we gather in worship, we light this Christ candle. A reminder that Jesus Christ is with us as the light of the world.

INTROIT: *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

VU 79 v1

*Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*²

In the kingdom of heaven,

There is plenty.

In the kingdom of heaven,

Everyone and everything is in God's care.

In the kingdom of heaven,

No one is out on their own.

The kingdom of heaven has come near,

And we come to reorient our lives in it.

To be touched by God who comforts and transformers.

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!*

CENTERING PRAYER: ²

SHARING THE WORD

TIME FOR ALL WHO ARE YOUNG AT HEART:

SUNG PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: *Open Our Hearts*

MV 21

*Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you, O loving God.
Open our hearts, Open our minds.
Open our lives to you, O loving God.*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:7-21, 25-34

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION:

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

VU 626

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING:

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS: *Grant Us, God, the Grace*

VU 540

*Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(In Unison)*

Before you God, we bring forward our skills and talents employed for kingdom living, we hold out to you the minutes and hours we work for your way, and the money that helps us to be your church in the world. Bless all these gifts, given in your name, that through them we might see your kingdom come. Amen

CHOIR ANTHEM: Make a Joyful Noise ~ Beall

PRAYERS 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

SENDING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

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

VU 639

*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.*

*Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me: R*

*As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know: R*

*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: R*

*You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: *(Responsive)*

Taking one day at a time

We will focus on Christ's presence and promise.

Taking one day at a time

We will seek first God's kingdom.

Taking one day at a time

We will trust that the Spirit will guide us and give us what we need.

Go into this day, in trust and with prayer. As you continue to walk this road of faith, know deeply that the love of God surrounds you, the Grace of Christ attends you and the Holy Spirit will sustain you all the days of your life. Amen

CHORAL CLOSING: Arise, Your Light Is Come!

VU 79 v4

*Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.*

POSTLUDE: Finale (from Symphony No. 3) Saint-Seans ~ arr. Zabel

¹ Bill Perry, *Gathering A/C/E 2018-2019*, pg 45

² Adapted from Terri Peterson *BibleWorm Liturgy January 29th, 2023*

Scripture Readers: Jesus 1 – Ann Krause, Jesus 2 – Alanna Palmer

Greeters: Ann & Harold Raper

Audio Visual: John Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH, 2023

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.



ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS DUE TODAY!

If you are a committee Chair or are involved in organizing a group in the congregation, your Annual report is today **January 27th**. Don't delay! Get it in to Meghan in the office today via email to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com or in paper format!

2022 TAX RECEIPTS AVAILABLE NOW!

2022 Tax Receipts are now available!! They can be picked up in the office Monday through Friday 8am – 3pm or in the Narthex on Sunday. Those remaining after February 12th will be mailed out. Please feel free to take a neighbour or friends' receipt and deliver it to them personally! Contact Meghan at stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com or 506.458.1183 if you prefer you receipt to be mailed to you.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE NOW!

2023 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up at the church office Monday through Friday 8am - 3 pm or in the Narthex on Sunday. Please feel free to take a neighbour or friends' envelopes and deliver them personally! Contact Meghan at stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com or 506.458.1183 if you prefer you receipt to be mailed to you.



A NEWSLETTER FOR LENT

Lent is fast approaching and, in a month, we hope to have the next addition of St. Paul's newsletter in the mail. We have had great feedback about them over this past year. Your help is needed to make it happen. Looking for people to help edit, to connect with committees around updates and gather articles. If you are able to help out with this ministry of communication and connection, please contact Rev. Michelle

FUNDSCRIP



The deadline for our first order in 2023 is coming soon . . . **Sunday, February 5**. Order forms are available at the office, in the Narthex on Sunday or you can print a copy by clicking here: [February 5th FundScrip Order Form](#) You can take your order and payment to the office during the week or bring it to church on Sunday. Thank you for your continued support of this fundraising program. New shoppers are always welcome. Speak with Carole Peacock if you would like to know more.

PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items: dish detergent, decaf coffee, canned salmon, ketchup, mushroom soup, cooking oil, tea bags, orange juice, large juice, and mustard. Thank you for your continued support!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

The Brown Bag Lunch program served over 107 individuals in 2022 and distributed 849 Brown Bag Lunches. This program is a vital component of our outreach to our community. Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program. It would not be successful without you! This week, the program is in desperate need of **proteins with flip top lids and juice boxes**.



HOSPITALIZATIONS & VISITS

Just a reminder that with the ongoing stress in hospitals, that services previously available to discover if someone was in hospital are no longer available. If you or a loved one is in hospital, please contact Rev. Michelle or the office and provide the room number and floor so that a visit can be arranged. Without this information, Rev. Michelle will be unable to find you!

BIBLE STUDY IS FOR EVERYONE

Wednesday morning lectionary study. This year we will be reading through the Gospel of Matthew, with a focus for this week on Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29. Join us in the conference room at 11:15am or online via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967> and Passcode: 259190.



Interested in an evening bible study? If daytime doesn't work for you, there is a couple looking to start a bible study for evenings. Let Rev. Michelle or the office know and help guide the time of meetings.

GETTING STARTED IN STEWARDSHIP

Getting Started in Stewardship: Tuesday, **February 21** – 2pm AST - Presented on Zoom.

Join United Church people from across the country to learn some stewardship first principles.

Start with an online 2-hour course that answers questions like: What is stewardship all about anyway? Isn't stewardship just a churchy word for fundraising? Why do people give, and why would they give to our church? What can we do to encourage greater generosity?

The practical assignments that follow will help you reflect on giving and generosity as part of your faith, gather and interpret some of the giving data from your community of faith, and build a stewardship team in order to start making stewardship a priority in your community of faith.

Any questions, please contact Roger Janes at rjanes@united-church.ca. [Click HERE to Register.](#)

CAMP WEGESEGUM ~ 100TH ANNIVERSARY

There are plans to celebrate so save the date: July 15, 2023. There will be music, food, children's activities and everything that makes camp good. Many of our congregation have had great camp experiences, more info on how you can be involved coming soon.

UKULELE CAMP AT WILMOT!

With the help of Catherine Stuart, Wilmot United Church is hosting a ukulele camp! This all ages event will take place on **Saturday, February 11 from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM** at Wilmot United Church. You'll learn chords and some songs during this social, indoor winter event. There will be a lunch break during which brown bag lunches from home can be enjoyed. Registration is required. Please contact Wilmot's office at 458-1066

or wilmotuc@nb.sympatico.ca by **Thursday, February 9** to reserve your spot. Those interested are encouraged to bring their own ukulele or borrow one from a friend. Instruments can be provided if this isn't an option for you.

A flyer for "Ukulele Camp" at Wilmot United Church. The top text reads "Wilmot United Church & Catherine Stuart present:". Below that, "UKULELE CAMP" is written in large, bold, orange letters. The event details are: "Saturday, February 11th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at 473 King Street". A list of bullet points follows: "• You'll learn chords and some songs during this social, indoor winter event.", "• There will be a lunch break provided and space to enjoy a brown bag lunch from home.", "• Registration required. Please contact the office at Wilmot at 458-1066 or wilmotuc@nb.sympatico.ca by Thursday, February 9, 2023 to reserve your spot.", "• Those interested are encouraged to bring their own ukulele or borrow one from a friend. Instruments can be provided if that isn't an option for you." In the bottom right corner, there is a small orange starburst graphic with the text "All Ages welcome".

SOUND & PROJECTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sound and projection are vital parts of our service and right now these tasks are being shouldered by one person. We need to expand the team. Training provided! We are hoping to develop a rotating team. Please contact Meghan to express your interest at 458-1183 or stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

January 29th ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by the Worship Committee

February 5th ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by The Board

February 12th ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Christian Ed

February 19th ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Property

February 26th ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Trustees



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Minister: Rev. Michelle Armstrong | **Organists:** Dr. Sharon Pond & Alexis Ervin

Church Administrator: Meghan Roebuck | **Custodian:** Rusty Blakely