

# 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*

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

World Day of Prayer

10:30 AM

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## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023 By Women of Taiwan "I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH"

### PRELUDE:

### VIDEO INTRODUCTION:

### GREETING:

The peace of Christ be with you all  
And also with you.

### WELCOME:

### CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*

Praise to the Lord, we thank God for all the blessings bestowed upon Taiwan.  
Praise God, the Creator, who created this beautiful island covered with mountain forests and nurtured by the ocean. Taiwan is rich in natural resources.

**Let the name of the Lord be praised. May your Glory be with us.**

More than one hundred years ago, missionaries who came to Taiwan to spread the good news. The people heard the gospel and received the grace of salvation.

**Let the name of the Lord be praised. May your Glory be with us.**

Since the 16th century, Taiwan has been colonized by different foreign forces; and experienced ethnic, cultural, social, and political conflict and integration. By the grace of God, the people on this island can live in peace. Taiwan shows great hospitality and is willing to help and become a blessing to others.

**Let the name of the Lord be praised. May your Glory be with us.**

### INTRODUCTION TO THE HOST COUNTRY: Video

### HYMN: *Oh Lord, Hear our Prayer*

*Oh Lord, hear our prayer,  
O Lord, hear our prayer.  
Lord, hear our earnest cry.  
Grant us your peace.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Forgiving God, we confess our sins to you. We have failed to take care of the land you entrusted to us. We have used it in unrighteous ways causing pollution and the extinction of various species.

**Oh Lord, have mercy on us.**

Gracious God, forgive us when we are selfish and arrogant; when we overlook human dignity, ignore the needs of minorities, migrants, and immigrants; when we hear the cries of the land, women, children, and young people and we do not respond with the grace we ourselves have received; when our actions cause people to suffer and be oppressed. We seek your forgiveness.

**Oh Lord, have mercy on us.**

Amen

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

O God, you are faithful and righteous. Forgive us and cleanse us from every sin so that we might live in your light. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation as we come to know you and be filled with love and faith. We thank you for your unending mercy and forgiveness. Reveal yourself to us so that we may know the immeasurable greatness of your power! Amen.

**Amen**

**HYMN: *Oh Lord, Hear Our Prayer***

*Oh Lord, hear our prayer,  
O Lord, hear our prayer.  
Lord, hear our earnest cry.  
Grant us your peace.*

**SCRIPTURE:** Ephesians 1:15-19

**MESSAGE:**

**HYMN: *I Have Heard About Your Faith*<sup>1</sup>**

*I have heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ,  
I have heard about your love towards all the saints  
I have not stopped giving thanks for you,  
And remembering you in my prayers. (repeat)*

**LETTER 1:** Dear Sister Pao-Chu

**LETTER 2:** Dear Sister Fen-Jiau

**LETTER 3:** Dear Sister Jojo

**LETTER 4:** Dear Sister Pearl

**LETTER 5:** Dear Sister Daiken

**SONG OF RESPONSE: *I Have Heard About Your Faith*<sup>1</sup>**

*I have heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ,  
I have heard about your love towards all the saints  
I have not stopped giving thanks for you,  
And remembering you in my prayers. (repeat)*

**PUZZLE PIECE ACTIVITY:**

**PRAYER OF RESPONSE:**

Holding the stories of the sisters in Taiwan in our hearts and the puzzle pieces in our hands let us pray.

**Merciful God, we come to you in prayer inspired by the women who shared their stories of faith, struggle, and hope. They were not defeated by the difficulties but empowered by your wisdom. We are not alone, for you are listening. We thank you for your presence, guidance, and protection as we walk through the valley of shadows. May we glorify you and become a living testimony of Christ.**

**OFFERING:**

**HYMN: *I Love to Tell the Story***

**VU 343**

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.  
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

*I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. R*

*I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. R*

**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**

**SENDING & BENEDICTION:**

**May God hear our stories and keep us in faith. May Jesus grant us wisdom to truly know the meaning of redemption. May the Holy Spirit open our hearts so that we can be a blessing to others. Amen!**

*We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.*

*Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.*

*I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.*

*Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.*

**POSTLUDE:** It is Well With My Soul (Video)

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<sup>1</sup> Words: Ephesians 1:15-16. Music © Lai, Yin-ting for WDP 2023

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**Participants:**

**Leaders:** Ann Raper & Donna Chauvin

**Scripture:** Linda Lamont

**Women:** #1 ~ Alice Gilmore, Grace Memorial Baptist  
#2 ~ Joan MacQuarrie, Morning Gate Church  
#3 ~ Rose Carolyn Smith, St. Andrews Presbyterian  
#4 ~ Debbie Heustis, St. Theresa's Roman Catholic  
#5 ~ Nancy Gilbert, Wilmot United

**Prayer Leaders:** Carole Peacock & Barbara Cull -Wilby

**Front Greeter:** Hope & Laura Steeves

**York Street:** Lois Patterson & Barbara McGuigan

**Kitchen:** Mary Stickles & Chris Grant

Many Thanks to Rev. Michelle Armstrong for arranging the program and tech support.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WORSHIP SUNDAY MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>, 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.

#### LENTEN REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

You are invited to join us in a small group circle during Lent for individual reflection and spiritual practice. Rose-Hannah will facilitate a 3-week group meeting from noon to 2pm on Saturday **March 11th, 18th, and 25th**. No previous experience is required, just bring your open heart and curiosity. The gatherings are held in the Parlor at Wilmot United Church. We begin by sharing a potluck lunch. To register, please contact Rose-Hannah Gaskin at [rosehannah.gaskin@gmail.com](mailto:rosehannah.gaskin@gmail.com)



#### PURDY'S EASTER CHOCOLATE ORDER DEADLINE APPROACHING!

And just like that, we are HALFWAY into our Fundraiser! Thank you so much for helping out, spreading the word and supporting St. Paul's. If you haven't ordered your Easter treats already, you still have time! The **order deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>**. If you have already ordered, you can share our link and let others know!

To view and download Easter Chocolate Sales Brochure and Order Form, available on our website, [click HERE](#). **Ordering Options:**

##### **Orders Place Offline through the Office:**

If you would like to **place an Order Offline**, bring your completed order form and cash or cheque payable to St. Paul's United Church to the Meghan in the Church Office. Please contact Meghan with any questions at 506-458-1183 or [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com)

##### **Online Orders:**

What you will need to **Order Online:**

1. Our campaign number: **67403**
2. Go to our fundraising website: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1719957-105534>
3. Click: **"Join Campaign"**
4. Shop, shop, shop away! Payment is by Visa & Mastercard

Thank you everyone for your support. Even if you can't buy chocolates from us, it would mean the world if you could share this fundraiser link to everyone you know!

#### CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER TO ST. PAUL'S & WILMOT ~ REGISTRATION DEADLINE APPROACHING

This is an opportunity for both congregations to gather together and discuss how Downtown United might develop a collaborative project and process that will sustain and enhance both congregations' missions of service within the greater Fredericton community. Cathy Stewart and Marijke Strong from Credence will be with us in person to facilitate both days of discussions. Dates (Please choose one): Saturday, **March 18, 9-12 am** at St Paul's OR Sunday, **March 19, 1-4 pm** at Wilmot. Lunch will be provided on both days. Please sign up so that we have enough food! Call the church office (458-1183) by Wednesday March 15th to register which session you will be attending.

## YOUTH AT REGION!

Calling all Youth grades 6-12! There will be a Youth Event during this year's Annual Meeting! May 26-28th, 2023 at UPEI in Charlottetown, PEI. Stay tuned for more information and registration coming soon. Please share this note with youth and leaders in your communities! For more information, contact Catherine Stuart [cstuart@united-church.ca](mailto:cstuart@united-church.ca)

## BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program is in desperate need of **fruit cups and juice boxes**. Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program.

## PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items: pancake mix & syrup, granola bars, cereal, white sugar, coffee whitener, cookies, miracle whip, mustard, ketchup, jam, chunky soup, apple and orange juices, waxed paper, dish detergent, laundry detergent and Mr. Clean. Thank you for your continued support!



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## 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 25:1-13. Join us in the conference room at 11:15am or online via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88619319967> and Passcode: 259190.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE NATIONAL CHURCH

We are seeking lay and ministry personnel leaders for roles on the General Council Executive, the General Council Planning Committee, a special task group, and a new interfaith opportunity. Please visit the [United Church website](#) for more information. Deadline for nominations is Thursday, March 23, 2023.

## SOUND & PROJECTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sound and projection are vital parts of our service and right now we are looking for at least one more person to step forward and join 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](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 12<sup>th</sup>** ~ World Day of Prayer ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Worship

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** ~ Conversations That Matter ~ at St. Paul's ~ 9am-12pm

**March 19<sup>th</sup>** ~ Downtown United Service at Wilmot

**March 19<sup>th</sup>** ~ Conversations That Matter ~ at Wilmot ~ 12:30-3:30pm

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Outreach

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** ~ Annual General Meeting following the service

## MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SEEKING BOOTS

We are reaching out to you in hopes of sourcing some winter boots for the recently arrived people who are seeking asylum in Canada. There are approximately 40 people here in Fredericton consisting of men, women and children and almost all of them don't have proper winter footwear. If you know of anyone who has

some boots that they'd like to donate, please have them contact Marisa Rojas at 447-2618 or [marisa.rojas@mcaf.nb.ca](mailto:marisa.rojas@mcaf.nb.ca)

## DINNER AT GIBSON MEMORIAL

Gibson Memorial United Church, 183 Gibson St. will be hosting a **Stuffed Pork Loin Dinner** (with all the trimmings) on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 4 - 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15/adult. Please call 506-457-1951 to reserve your tickets.

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

224 York St., Fredericton, NB E3B 3P1

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

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