

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

191 Years of Glorifying God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ, and serving others in Christ's name

Jan 28th, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 AM

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time on and forevermore.

~ Psalm 131

GATHERING AS GOD'S OWN

PRELUDE: Tell Me the Story of Jesus ~ arr. M. McDonald

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

VU 79 vs 1

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*¹

Come, bring your burdens, your hopes, your last-ditch efforts, your pain, your longing.

We come seeking God's compassion, present in Christ.

Whoever you are, whatever positions you hold, whatever experience life has brought you,

we come seeking healing, restoration, peace, grace.

Trusting in what Jesus can do,

we come seeking the One who gives life.

OPENING HYMN: *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.*

OPENING PRAYER: ²

God among us, you have never been content only to heal our bodies, you long for wholeness for each individual, for the community, for all creation. As you attend to our stories we give you thanks, for you listen fully when we have the courage to be open and vulnerable with you. In these moments we find your grace, naming us as part of your family, offering yourself for our good. As we seek your gift of life today, may we sense your power taking us by the hand and calling us to get up and walk. Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

STORY TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

SUNG PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: Open Our Hearts

MV 21 x 2

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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Mark 5:21-43

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Fairest Lord Jesus ~ Landon

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HYMN OF RESPONSE: My Love Colours Outside the Lines

MV 138

*My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find;
and takes me into places where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.*

*My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
and takes me into places where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.*

Chorus:

*We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die,
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.*

*My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where
I've never been before, throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.*

Chorus:

*We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die,
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.*

*My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries where
I've never been before, throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.*

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,**

VU 918

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.

OFFERING AND TITHES RECEIVED

Offerings are collected at the door to the sanctuary, or via e-transfer to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com. To set up Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) monthly contributions, please contact Meghan in the office.

SUNG DEDICATION: *Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands*

VU 537

*Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.*

*Because we love you and your work,
our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own,
we ask for Jesus' sake.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

GOING FORTH WITH GOD

CLOSING HYMN: *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

VU 512 vs 1,4-5

*Lord, you give the great commission:
'Heal the sick and preach the word.'
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you show us love's true measure:
'Father, what they do, forgive.'
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you bless with words assuring:
'I am with you to the end.'
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSING: *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New*

MV 115

*Behold, behold,
I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold,
I make all things new, my promises true, for I am Christ the way.*

POSTLUDE: Come, Thou Almighty King ~ arr. G. Martin

¹ Rev. Teri Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy, January 28, 2024.

² Adapted Rev. Teri Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy, January 28, 2024

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Alanna Palmer, Jesus – Ron Naugler, Disciples – Cathy Davis, Jarius – Greg Morton,
Woman – Jane Banks, People – Debbie Allison
Greeters: Carole Peacock **Audio Visual:** John Davis

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.

WELCOME JAEDYN!

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Jaedyn Williams has accepted the position of Church Custodian at St. Paul's United Church effective January 22, 2024. She is working 9 am to 1 pm Monday to Friday. ~ Ann Krause, M&P Chair

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

As the January 17th deadline passes, sending a gentle reminder that all Committee, Board and Trustee reports are due. Thank you to those who have already made their submission. Meghan will be away on vacation from February 16th – March 4th, so to have the Annual Report ready for the Annual General Meeting, it has to be completed before she leaves. Please forward to Meghan via email to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com and remember that your report should be no longer than 2 pages.



FELLOWSHIP HOUR SERVERS

Thank you to everyone who has provided for our fellowship time this past fall and those who have already signed up this winter. We have a full slate of servers for January. You can help our faith community by picking one day to serve. Check the bulletin board across from the hall for available dates.



WARM MITTENS & WINTER BOOTS NEEDED!

We are in desperate need of warm mittens and winter boots for folks without. If you have any gently used items to donate, please drop them off at the office. Many thanks!

FUNDSCRIP RETURNS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4!

If you've used all the gift cards you purchased before Christmas, now is the time to get your order ready. Order forms are available in the church office, the narthex or click here to print one [February-4th-2024-FundScrip-Order-Form.pdf](#). Need more information on this program? Here's the scoop. FundScrip is Canada's most successful gift card fundraiser offering gift cards for all your shopping needs... groceries, gas, hardware, restaurants, etc. Cards from over 200 retailers are available in different denominations. Each purchase automatically includes a donation to St. Paul's calculated as a percentage of the card's value. There is no cost to you for this donation. You receive the full face value of every card you purchase. Just take your order and payment (cheque, cash, e-transfer) to the church office or give it to Carole Peacock on or before the deadline date. Orders are placed once a month, usually the first Sunday, with time off in the summer and January. Cards arrive within the week. Contact Carole Peacock if you would like more information. Remember: *Shopping is fundraising for St. Paul's!*



WILMOT & ST. PAUL'S FAMILY & FRIENDS BOWLING



Sunday **January 28th** from 2:30-4:30 pm at The Drome, 301 Main Street.

Gather your friends and family and join Wilmot for a fun-filled afternoon of bowling and laughter. If you plan to attend, please contact Wilmot Church office at 504-458-1066 or email Lynn Fullarton at lfullarton3@gmail.com.

The cost is \$6.00 per person and if you require transportation to attend, please let us know.

This event is sponsored by the Wilmot Radical Hospitality Committee

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program needs **proteins with flip top lids, and pudding cups**. Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program.

PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items this week: Mayo, flour, white sugar, pancake mix & syrup, ketchup, juice boxes, granola bars, stewed tomatoes, hearty soups, laundry detergent, toilet paper, Kleenex, and paper towel. Thank you for your continued support of this increasingly busy outreach program!



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at St. Paul's Frasier Memorial Hall on **February 13th** at 5:30pm.

Menu: pancakes, sausage, baked beans, tea, coffee, and dessert. If you are interested in volunteering at this event, please reach out to Ralph Simpson for more information.

GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY

Pick up this reflection guide at the back of the sanctuary to use as a home devotional or with your friends.

BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY READING

Tuesdays from 10:45am-11:45am in the Board room. Can't make it in person, Join by Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81736183320> Meeting ID: 817 3618 3320 Passcode: 750844

EVENING SMALL GROUP FAITH EXPLORATION

Thursdays from 6-7pm in the Parlor. We hope you will join us.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Annual Report Submissions Due

January 28th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Mel & Barb McGuigan & Debbie Allison

February 4th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister

February 13th ~ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

REIMAGINING CHURCH - RECLAIMING YOUR CALL (LAY PEOPLE ONLY!)

Imagine your community of faith as a fellowship of disciples (instead of a floundering institution); Imagine following the footsteps of our radical Teacher (instead of being ground down by budget shortfalls and petty conflicts); Imagine being part of a Christian community that understands the essence of our identity and call as people of God. Fall in love with your faith all over again! Join this six-week series to renew and rekindle your call to discipleship. Live sessions are led by a diverse group of United Church people with a depth and breadth of experience including national staff members. The live sessions take place February 10th, 24th, March 9th, 23rd, April 6th, 20th, 2024 from 1pm-3pm. Between live sessions, there will be reading, journal-writing, and online conversation among other participants to further your learning and growth. Cost: \$99.99 (discount when registering as a group) Register today at United in Learning <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=132>

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AT NASHWAAKSIS UNITED

Nashwaaksis United Church at 46 Main St. is hosting Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, **Feb. 13th** from 4-6 pm. Pancakes, sausage, baked beans, brown bread, cake, tea, and coffee. Price \$10. For more information, please contact the church office at 506-458-9452.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AT GIBSON MEMORIAL

Gibson Memorial United Church at 183 Gibson St. will be hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Tuesday, **Feb. 13st** from 4 - 6 p.m. and in celebration of Valentine's Day, "**Bring your Sweetheart for Pancakes**". On the menu: pancakes, sausages, ham, baked beans, scallop potatoes, brown bread and dessert. \$20 per person. Please call 506-457-1951 to reserve your tickets.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Web: www.stpaulsunited.ca | Tel: 506-458-1183 | Email: stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

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

Church Administrator: Meghan Roebuck | **Custodian:** Jaedyn Williams