

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

Feb 4th, 2024

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 AM

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and security within your towers." For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good. ~ Psalm 122

GATHERING AS GOD'S OWN

PRELUDE: I Need Thee Every Hour ~ Payne

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

Wisdom and power
Confusion and jealousy
Vulnerability and hospitality
Questions and stories

All together, within and around Jesus, within and around us.

We enjoy listening even when we don't put into practice what we hear,
We are astonished at the authority Jesus embodies,
We wonder when he jumped out of the box we like to keep him in,
We are scared of the task he gives us,

And still we come, to offer ourselves and see what God will do.

OPENING HYMN: *Breath on Me, Breath of God*

VU 382

*Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.*

OPENING PRAYER: ¹

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 6:1-29

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy ~ Turner

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *He Leadeth Me*

VU 657

*He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.*

Chrous:

*He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me!
His faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me!*

*Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. R*

*Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine,
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. R*

*And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
even death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. R*

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,
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.

*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: *Moved by the Gospel, Let Us Move*

*Moved by the Gospel, let us move
with every gift and art.
The image of creative love
indwells each human heart.
The Maker calls creation good,
so let us now express
with sound and colour, stone and wood,
the shape of holiness.*

*Let weavers form from broken strands
a tapestry of prayer.
Let artists paint with skilful hands
their joy, lament, and care.
Then mime the story: Christ has come.
With reverence dance the word.
With flute and organ, ching and drum
God's praise be ever heard.*

*O Spirit, breathe among us here;
inspire the work we do.
May hands and voices, eye and ear
attest to life made new.
In worship and in daily strife
create among us still.
Great Artist, form our common life
according to your will.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: *(Responsive)*²

Are you ready to go into the world to seek and serve God?

We are ready to find God in the world, in small and surprising places.

Attentive to our surroundings we will seek God at work, in intriguing and unexpected ways.

Eager to serve we will respond this day, right where we are, just as we are, that is enough.

Go now, into the world to love as God loves you, to witness to Christ's way in easy and challenging times, and know that God is present with you through it all. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

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: Gigue Fugue ~ Bach

¹ Rev. Teri Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy, February 4, 2024.

² Adapted from Gill Le Fevre Sunday Prayers: Mark 6:1-13, June 23, 2021

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Ann Krause, People #1 & Mother & Jesus – Deborah West,
People #2 & Daughter – Cathy Davis, People #3 & John & Herod – Ron Naugler
Greeters: Erin & Brian Webb **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.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Sending a gentle reminder that all Committee, Board and Trustee reports are due. Thank you to those who have already made their submission. Please email reports to stpauloffice224@gmail.com



FUNDSCRIP RETURNS THIS SUNDAY!



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!*

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!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR SERVERS

Thank you to everyone who has provided for our fellowship time. We still need a few more folks to sign up for dates in February. You can help our faith community by picking one day to serve in the coming months. Check the bulletin board across from the hall for available dates.

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

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

PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items this week: paper towel, Mr. Clean, Commit, Laundry & Dish Soap, Toilet Paper, vinegar, cookies, granola bars, Corn Flakes, and Rice Krispies. 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 Cathy Davis for more information.

GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY

Pick up this reflection guide in the narthex to use as a home devotional or with your friends. This devotional follows the pattern of pray, reflect and do, offering suggestions on how to put the biblical theme into action.

BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY READING

Tuesdays from 10:45am-11:45am we explore the biblical passage for Sunday, seeking to create connections with our lives. Come explore deeper the passage we will be reading. As one participant noted, "it makes Sunday service richer". Join us in the boardroom. Can't make it in person, you can join the discussion via 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 explore the questions you have, scripture and faith practices to deepen our connection with God and each other. We hope you will join us.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

When Church Stops Working: by Andrew Root and Blair Bertrand. If you are interested in joining the discussion, please sign up on the bulletin board across from Frasier Memorial Hall. Available in print, e-book, and audio formats order your copy today. If finances are a constraint or if you need help finding a copy of the book, please reach out to Rev. Michelle

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

ASAP ~ Annual Report Submissions Due

February 4th ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister & Debbie West

February 11th ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Lois Walker & Erin Webb

February 13th ~ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at **5:30pm**

February 18th ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Debbie West

February 25th ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Wilmot United Church in downtown Fredericton is accepting applications for a **10-14 hr/wk** Church Office Administrator beginning **April 1, 2024** (flexibility re: start date & hours). This position is key to creating a welcoming environment as well as the smooth, efficient, and effective functioning of the church. Its focus will be on reception, communication (i.e. social media, website management, newsletter) and general office responsibilities. Skills required include good interpersonal communication; advanced computer proficiency & knowledge of Microsoft Office products; graphics & database software; ability to work independently in an environment subject to frequent interruptions. Please direct **inquiries** or **covering Letter & resume** to Chair of Ministry & Personnel Committee, Judy Coates, wilmotuc@nb.sympatico.ca cc judycoates@rogers.com

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.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

224 York St., Fredericton, NB E3B 3P1

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