

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

April 21st, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Easter

10:30 AM

As for yourselves, beware, for they will hand you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak but the Holy Spirit.

~ Mark 13:9-11

GATHERING AS GOD'S OWN

PRELUDE: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word ~ Bach

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: *Joy Comes with the Dawn*

VU 166 Refrain

*Joy comes with the dawn;
joy comes with the morning sun;
joy springs from the tomb
and scatters the night with her song,
joy comes with the dawn.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*

Why do you come?

**We sense that there is more to this world than what we can measure,
We want to participate in that mystery and power that is beyond ourselves.**

Why do you come?

**To hear a story that elevates our everyday lives,
one of forgiveness, love, and peace.**

Why do you come?

In community, we find support for living lives of faith and hope, lives filled with grace.

Why do you come?

We come because we are called by God, to grow in Christlikeness and be moved by the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God that you have come. Let us worship together!

OPENING HYMN: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

VU 686

*God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.*

*Cure your children's warring madness,
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.*

*Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christlike graces,
pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not them nor thee.*

CENTERING PRAYER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

STORY TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 17:1-9 and 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: The Grace Divine ~ Price

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

VU 560

*O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
teach me thy secret, help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move
with some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me thy patience; still with thee,
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sure and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,*

*in hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

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

VU 537 vs 2

*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.*

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

PRACTICE OF THE WEEK

GOING FORTH WITH GOD

CLOSING HYMN: *I Have Called You by Your Name*

MV 161

*I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.*

*I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim, offer
Jesus' body given long ago.*

*I know you will need my touch as you go;
Feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of
doubt, hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.*

*I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children
whole; go and tell my precious people they are mine.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: *(Responsive)*

Go now to be agents of God's love and grace. Following the model that has been set by those who came before us.

**We are one link in a long chain, one ripple moving outward,
embodying our faith so all may see and know God's love we go to the world.**

And as you go know...

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

MV 115 x2

*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: Chorale Prelude on a Melody by Melchoir Vulpius ~ Willan

*Scripture Readers: Narrator & Reader 1 – Ann Krause, Paul & Reader 2 – Greg Morton, Crowd & Reader 3 – Debbie West,
Reader 4 - Cathy Davis*

Greeter: 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.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ARE ONLINE

The minutes of the April 7th Annual General Meeting are now posted on our website. [Click here](#) for a direct link. If you would like a paper copy, please reach out to Meghan in the office.

INTRODUCTION OF OUR NEW CHURCH COUNCIL

At the Annual Meeting, we voted in favor of shifting to a Council Model of Governance. This structure will allow greater participation at the decision-making table and improve communication, both are critical in this time of change. Thank you to those who have stepped forward and given of yourself to serve our congregation. There are still a few vacancies; 1-2 more Members at Large and Outreach representative. Please consider if you are being called to these positions.

So, who is on the Council? Let's give a big welcome and thank you to: Chair – Jane Blakely, Treasurer – Brad Webb, Regional Representative – Ron Naugler, Member at Large – Lita Llewellyn, Property Chair – Patty Trail, Worship Chair – Debbie West, Christian Education Chair – Erin Webb, Ministry & Personnel Chair, Ann Krause, Trustees Representative – Carole Peacock, and Rev. Michelle. Please feel free to reach out to any of them regarding questions, concerns, or suggestions.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

Are you newer to the congregation, but feel you have found your church home? Have you been attending St. Paul's for a while and want to become a member of this congregation and ensure you have a voice in the changes we are navigating? Contact Rev. Michelle for information on how to officially become a member of St. Paul's.

EARTH DAY/WEEK EVENTS

During [Earth Week \(April 21-28\)](#), join Moderator Carmen Lansdowne and others as we pray, learn, and act for our planet! The United Church of Canada is joining with numerous denominations and faith-based organizations under one banner, [Together for the Love of Creation](#), and invite you to organize events, [raise your voice](#), and deepen your knowledge of climate change. [Register](#) and find inspiration!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program needs **granola bars, pudding cups, and 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: laundry soap, Javex, tin foil, waxed paper, hand soap, ketchup, granola bars, cookies, pasta, pudding cups, coffee, baking powder, flour, large orange juice, apple sauce, juice boxes, Rice Krispies, sugar, and cake mix. Thank you for your continued support of this increasingly busy outreach program!



INFORMATION SESSION

Following Worship on **May 5th** in the lady's parlor. The EMS team will be sharing the plan for developing the Ecumenical shared ministry agreement with St. Andrew's. Come and ask your questions about the work and EMS's in general. Provide feedback on the process. Everyone is welcome.

DOWNTOWN UNITED SUMMER SCHEDULE

**Please join us this summer for
Downtown United +
*Everyone is welcome!***

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & Via Zoom

512 Charlotte St. Fredericton | Tel.455-8220

Sunday Services at 11am

June 30th | July 7th | July 14th

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287?pwd=RFhERHZiU0hHbVpYcjYxRFFNZWdIQT09> Meeting ID: 836 7375 6287 Passcode: 839092

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH & Via Zoom

224 York St. Fredericton NB | Tel. 458-1183

Sunday Services at 10:30am

July 21st | July 28th | August 4th

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81834519740> Password: 657067

View later: <https://www.youtube.com/St. Paul's>

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH & Via YouTube

473 King St. Fredericton | 458-1066

Sunday Services at 11am

August 11th | August 18th | August 25th

<https://www.youtube.com/c/WilmotUnitedChurch?app=desktop>



E-ssentials

E-SSENTIALS E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to the E-ssentials e-Newsletter and stay informed about the latest information and initiatives from The United Church of Canada. There are a variety of newsletters to choose from, each highlighting different areas of the church's ministries and work. <https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

YOUTH @ REGION

Calling all youth grades 6-12! Youth @ Region is a place of community, a place of fun, and a place of faith for you to meet with others your age from across NB, PEI, and the Gaspé. During Y@R you will have the opportunity to explore faith, learn more about the United Church of Canada, share in music, worship, and a ton of fun. It takes place during the Annual Meeting of the Region **May 31st-June 2nd** at the University of Prince Edward Island. Registration is \$150 per participant and includes all activities, meals, accommodation, and an event T-shirt (if you need help covering costs speak to Rev. Michelle). Don't miss this opportunity.

CALLING ALL YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS!

Registration for Audacious Hope, a national gathering for youth, young adults, and their leaders, is now open! Audacious Hope is an exciting new partnership between the Rendez-vous team of The United Church of Canada and the LIFT team of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. We hope you will join us **July 3-6, 2024**, at Brock University, St. Catharines, ON. Come pray—with inspiring worship speakers Adele Halliday and Mitchell Anderson. Come play—how about silent disco or square dancing? Come ponder—with Moderator Carmen Lansdowne about how to find and offer hope in today's world. Early bird registration is April 15-May 15: \$425. May 16-31 registration fee: \$500. Registration will close May 31, 2024. Find out more and [sign up today](#).

BOOKING MEETING SPACE AT ST. PAUL'S

As the use of our space at St. Paul's gets busier, please remember to book your meetings space through the office. Drop by in person, call 458-1183 or email Meghan at stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com.

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.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesdays from 10:45am-11:45am ~ Bible Study on Sunday Reading

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81736183320> Passcode: 750844

Thursdays from 6-7pm ~ Evening Small Group Faith Exploration

April 21st ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister & Debbie West

April 28th ~ Joint Service at St. Andrew's at 11am

May 5th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosts needed!

May 12th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosts needed!

May 19th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosts needed!

May 26th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosts needed!

SPRING RUMAGE SALE AT WILMOT

Mark your calendars for the UCW Spring Rummage Sale. Sorting will take place on Thursday, **April 25th**, with the sale happening on Friday and Saturday, **April 26th & 27th**. Donations of spring/summer clothing, housewares, toys, etc. can be left on the gym stage during office hours. To volunteer, contact Linda Gough or call the church office at 506-458-1066 and we can pass along your name.

GUARANTEED LIVABLE INCOME

A Conversation About Guaranteed Livable Income, sponsored by Wilmot Outreach Committee in partnership With Basic Income Atlantic. **Friday May 3rd from 1-3pm in Wilmot's sanctuary**. Refreshments and further

discussion following the presentation with Wil Robertson and Dr. Herb Emery with discussion moderator Randy Hatfield. Free of charge.



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.stpaulsunityed.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