

**Saint Andrew's Presbyterian
and St. Paul's United
Ecumenical Shared Ministry**

**March 22, 2026 - 10:30 a.m.
Lent V**



We welcome Rev. Darryl Levy,
leading us in worship today.

Minister

The Rev. Michelle Armstrong

Organist & Choir Director

Dr. Sharon Pond

Clerk of Session

Jean Boudreau

Council Chair

Vacant

Ministers Emeriti

Rev. Douglas E. Blaikie

Rev. Dr. Basil Lowery

Office Administrators

Saint Andrew's

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St. Paul's

Melissa Howard and Erin Webb

Melissa: By appointment.

Erin: Wednesdays, 10 am - 1 pm

(506) 458-1183 or

stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

Our Address

512 Charlotte Street

Fredericton, NB E3B 1M2

Bulletin submissions:

Wednesday by Noon

*We acknowledge that the land on which we gather
is the traditional unceded territory of the
Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples.*

*This territory is covered by the
“Treaties of Peace and Friendship”
which Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik),
Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples
first signed with the British Crown in 1726.*

*The treaties did not deal with surrender
of lands and resources but in fact recognized
Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik) title
and established the rules for what was to be
an ongoing relationship between nations.*

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude: 'Highland Cathedral'

~ Callahan

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit:

'Healer of Our Every Ill'

VU 619

*Healer of our every ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.*

Call to Worship: ¹ (Responsive)

More than those who watch for the morning,
we wait faithfully for God.

**With our questions and our cries, in our hopes and
expectations, we wait faithfully for God.**

Come, let us worship the Lord our God together,
and offer our prayers and praise in faithfulness.

Opening Prayer

Hymn:

'Blessed Assurance'

VU 337

***Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.***

(Refrain)

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. R*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. R*

Prayer of Adoration & Confession: ² (Responsive)

God in whom we live and move and have our being, we praise you.
In the face of all that wearies us and worries us,
your Word echoes across the centuries with hope.
As we follow the footsteps of Jesus in this Lenten season,
his Cross standing before us, we trust you are never far from our sorrows,
walking with us; sharing our tears.
You stand beside us when we don't know which way to turn.
In this time of worship, renew our trust in your resurrection promises.
Draw near to us when we need you the most with love that will never let us go.
We offer you our wonder and our praise as the creating God, leading Christ,
and inspiring Spirit.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Have mercy on us and forgive us;
so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon ³

Jesus said, "Come to me all you who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Trust that peace and forgiveness are God's gift to you this day, whatever burden you carry. Be renewed by the breath of the Holy Spirit that will bring you into each new day. **Amen.**

Time for the Young and the Young at Heart

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer of Illumination 4: (Unison)

Life-giving God, steady us with your Spirit. Open our hearts and minds so that we may attend to the stories of your grace and promise, revealed through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Scripture:

Psalm 146 (Responsive)

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

**who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith for ever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.

**The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

**The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

The LORD will reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Gospel: John 18:28-40

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.' The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' They shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Gospel: John 19:1-16

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, 'Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.' So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!' When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.' The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.'

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, 'Where are you from?' But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, 'Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?' Jesus answered him, 'You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.' From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, 'If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.'

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus;

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response:

'O Jesus I Have Promised'

VU 120

***O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:***

***I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.***

***O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin.***

***O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.***

***O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.***

Invitation to the Offering⁵

God breathes the power of new life into the world through Christ who is both Friend and Saviour to us. We offer our gifts in gratitude for God's renewing breath, trusting its power will move through our gifts into the world God loves.

Doxology

'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow'

VU 541

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low,
Praise God in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word and Spirit One.***

Prayer of Dedication:⁴ (Unison)

We place our gifts into your hands, O God. With the power of your Holy Spirit make them seeds of new life, springing up with hope and healing for weary souls. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People: 5

God of the loving heart,
thank you that in Christ, you call each of us by name and unite us in his body, the Church.
Give us love enough to make a difference in your world,
and trust enough to follow even when the way ahead us is a challenge.

Leader: Christ of majesty and mercy,

All: Bring your compassion to this world once more.

God of peace and promise,
in Christ you call us to love our enemies and to be peacemakers in the word you love.
We pray today for people and places divided by ancient bitterness and current hostility,
(especially we remember...)

Leader: Christ of majesty and mercy,

All: Bring your compassion to this world once more.

O God of the bruised and broken,
we are grateful that, in Christ, you have taken up the cross
and know by heart the things that bring us suffering and pain.
We pray today for all those in need of healing and comfort,
whatever the source of their pain....

(Silence)

Leader: Christ of majesty and mercy,

All: Bring your compassion to this world once more.

O God of the lonely and sorrowing,
in Christ you faced the loss we know
when loved ones die or when friends let us down.
We remember before you those who grieve the loss of their beloved
and those who face a lonely future....

(Silence)

Leader: Christ of majesty and mercy,

All: Bring your compassion to this world once more.

O God of hope and new possibility,
in Christ you opened the way into the future for us through the power of your redeeming
love. Give us the courage we need to face our future,
assured of your presence and power to sustain us.
We offer all that we are and all that we hope for through Jesus Christ
who taught us to pray together as his people:

The Lord's Prayer: (Unison)

**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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY

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.*

Commissioning & Benediction: 6

As we move toward Holy Week and turn towards the Cross,
remember the words of Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
So may the tears of the Lord Jesus wash over your sorrows,
the Spirit of God dwell in your hearts,
and God's promise of new life lead you through each day ahead.

Choral Closing:

'Throughout these Lenten Days and Nights'

VU 108, Vs. 5

***So let us choose the path of one
who wore, for us, the crown of thorn,
and slept in death, that we might wake
to life on Resurrection Morn!***

Postlude: *'When Morning Guilds the Skies'*

~ Payne

¹⁻⁶ - PCC Worship Planner March 22, 2026

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME EVERYONE!

May this service be a blessing to you
as we continue to worship together each week, in person and online.

Please join us in the Hall following service for refreshments and fellowship.

Thank you to our volunteers today:

Greeters - Carole Peacock and Margie Penney

Scripture Readers - Rose Carolyn Smith (Psalm 146), Cathy Davis (John 18:28-40)

Audio/Visual - Glynis Martin, Beth and Shawn Meister

Counters - Colleen Watson and assistant / ***Tellers*** - Carole Peacock and Kim Keech

Refreshments & Fellowship - Sunday School

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

March 29 - Kim Keech, Beth and Shawn Meister **April 5** - Worship Committee

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Hall entry.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our ministry of hospitality.

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE: The year-end financial records were fully submitted to our bookkeeper at the end of January. At the end of last week, we received our year-end financials back. Our treasurers have reviewed and are in the process of handing these off to the reviewers. Once we have projected returns from reviewers, we will schedule exact dates for AGM – likely early May.

THE NEW DIRECTORY - Copies should be available the end of April and will be free for those who had a new photo taken last fall. Those who requested we use previous directory photos, submitted photos or chose not to have any photo included, but may want a copy, are able to purchase one. **The cost is \$20.00 + tax, payable by cheque made out to 'Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church'**, who will receive an invoice from Universal Portrait Studios to cover the cost of these extra copies. **Contact Joanna, Saint Andrew's office to order yours.**

CURRENT NEEDS OF OUR OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Pantry:

Salt, baking soda, diced tomatoes, canned evaporated milk, 'Comet' cleaner.

Brown Bag Lunches: *fruit cups, pudding cups.*

Breakfast 2 Go: *Canned meat and fish; Cheez Whiz; peanut butter; instant coffee; individual cereal boxes; TP.*

All donations are appreciated!

CAMP GEDDIE is now seeking staff for the 2026 summer season. We welcome anyone and everyone above the age of sixteen to apply on the many positions being offered. It runs this year from July 2 until August 14. Campers may also register at this time according to the available specified dates and age group. For more information, please visit the website at campgeddie.ca. We are looking forward to an excellent summer experience of faith and fun for all involved.

LENT & EASTER

Lenten Prayer Series:

March 17, 24, 31, Noon-1 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian (Hanwell):
prayer, Scripture reading and reflection, followed by soup and fellowship.

Palm Sunday, March 29:

~ 10:30 a.m. service here, led by Rev. Darryl Levy.

Maundy Thursday, April 2 :

~ Potluck at 5:30 p.m., worship at 7 p.m., Saint James Presbyterian
(Hanwell) led by Rev. Wendy McWilliams.

~ Potluck at 5:30 p.m. (no desserts); service with handwashing to follow,
led by Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

Good Friday, April 3:

~ Service here at 11 a.m., led by Rev. Darryl Levy.

Easter Sunday, April 5

~ *Sunrise Service* at the River (by pedway near library) at 7:00 a.m. with a
kindling of fire, a time of remembrance of those who have died in the
past year, led by Rev. Ellen Bearisto. Breakfast to follow at Wilmot.

~ *Easter Service with Communion*, here at 10:30 a.m., led by Doug Blakley,
with a Sunday brunch-type fellowship time to follow.

ONGOING CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Tuesdays** ~ *Ladies Group, Hall, 9:30 am ~ All are welcome!*
Tues. & Thurs. ~ *Quilting Group, Parlour, 1 - 4 pm ~ All are welcome!*
Wednesdays ~ *Pantry Program, Basement, 9 -11 am*
~ *Brown Bag Lunch Program, St. Paul's Office, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm*
Thursdays ~ *Bible Study, Rev. Michelle's Study, 6 - 7 pm ~ All are welcome!*
~ *Choir Practice, Hall – 7 - 8 pm ~ All are welcome!*
Fridays ~ *Breakfast 2 Go, Hall entrance – 9 - 10:30 am*

Can't make it to Sunday Service in person?

Join us via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287> Passcode: 2023

View anytime on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsunitedchurch984/videos>

Parking Reminder

There are two parking spots in our lot designated 24/7 for the Shared Ministry, clearly identified as Minister and Organist only.

There is also designated parking for those displaying disability permits (one in our lot and several along Charlotte Street directly in front of the church).

As parking in our lot and along Charlotte Street is somewhat limited, **extra parking is available for Sunday service only** at Bright Minds Early Learning Centre, 486 Needham Street, a 2 minute walk out Carleton Street, just west of the Church.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

