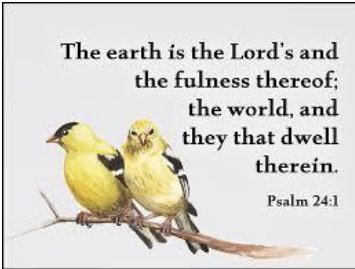


**Saint Andrew's Presbyterian
and St. Paul's United
Ecumenical Shared Ministry**
May 17, 2026 - 10:30 a.m.
Seventh Sunday of Easter



Welcome to
the Rev. Douglas Blaikie, and
Rev. Greg Geldart (Organist)
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

Joanna Price

M – F, 10 am – 1 pm

(506) 455-8220

sapcfred@gmail.com

St. Paul's

Melissa Howard

Hours vary.

Email is monitored.

Please reach out.

(506) 458-1183

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: *Largo from "Xerxes"*

~ Handel

Minuet from "Bernice"

~ Handel

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship: *(Responsive)*

Let us be joyful before God!

We will sing praises to God's holy name.

Let us lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds,
who protects and gives the desolate a home.

Sing to God, all nations of the earth.

We will sing praises to the Lord, our God.

Hymn: *'O for a world where everyone'* **TBoP #730**

*O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.*

*O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.*

*We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.*

*The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.*

*Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.*

*O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: (worship leader)

God of life, we praise you for your love which calls all life into being. We offer thanks for Christ, who reveals your loving purpose for all people. We bless you for your Spirit who guides and inspires us and who draws us into the circle of your love. In recalling all that you have done and who you are, we confess what we have done and who we are:

(All): God of mercy, we confess the times when we forget you and are divided from one another, and how often our thoughts, words, and actions betray your goodness and our calling. Forgive us, merciful God. Mend what is broken, heal wounded relationships and convert our hearts and minds, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (worship leader)

While it is true that we have all fallen short in our call to follow Jesus, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through grace. Remember the Good News! In Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. **Amen.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Understanding: (Unison)

God of Wisdom, send your Spirit to give us fresh understanding of your Word in Scripture. Inspire us to respond with renewed commitment to follow Christ Jesus, your Living Word. Amen.

The Scripture:

The Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

The Psalm: 24 (Responsive)

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it,
for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from the God of their salvation.

**Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!

**Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!

Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.

The Gospel: John 17:1-18

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Anthem: *"God of Mercy, God of Grace"*

~ Jerry G. Davidson

Message

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response:

'We are one in the Spirit'

TBoP # 471

***We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored,
(Refrain): and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

***We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land, R***

***We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride, R***

***All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, who is God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one, R***

Invitation to the Offering (worship leader)

This Sunday brings the season of Easter to a close. Yet we will continue to receive the blessings God pours out for us in Christ and in creation, for God is so good to us. We offer to God our thanks for such goodness in our tithes and offering.

Doxology

***'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow'
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.***

VU 541

Prayer of Dedication: (Unison)

Eternal and ever-present God, we offer these gifts in thanksgiving for the work of Christ in our lives. Bless them and us with the power of the Spirit, using our gifts for the work of reconciliation Christ has given us to do in the world you love. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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, the Lord of sea and sky'

TBoP #592

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Refrain:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night;
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? R*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? R*

Commissioning & Benediction

Postlude: *'All Creatures of Our God and King'*

~ arr. P. Gregory

Liturg: PCC Worship Planner, May 17, 2026; Scripture text: <http://www/biblegateway.com> (NRSVU);
Hymn 471: Song # 269971 CCLI License # 11189100

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.

SAVE THE DATE! – NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 24th

is Communion Sunday, when we will welcome the Rev. Susan McAllister to our pulpit. Following the service, both the Saint Andrew's and St. Paul's Annual Meetings will be held simultaneously, preceded by a meeting of the entire congregation to hear a report, 'An Ecumenical Shared Ministry Year in Review, 2025' from the Ecumenical Assembly. Copies of the EA report, the agenda of the 1st Annual Meeting of Saint Andrew's and St. Paul's ESM and the Annual Report for St. Paul's are all available today (on the glass display cabinet). The Saint Andrew's Annual Report will be made available online and in paper form ASAP. Please plan to bring a brown bag lunch – coffee and tea will be provided – and stay following next Sunday's service to hear the reports and participate in any decisions we make for 2026.

Thank you to our Volunteers today:

Greeters - Mary Stickles, Carole Peacock

Scripture Readers - Beth Meister; Kathy Berry; Helen McKinnon-Bagnell

Audio/Visual - Glynis Martin, Beth and Shawn Meister

Counters - / Tellers - Carole Peacock, Kimberly Keech

Refreshments / Fellowship Hour - Mary Hossack and Margie Penney

Refreshment & Fellowship Hosts: Volunteers are needed for **Sunday, May 31st** and beyond.
The sign-up sheet for June is on the Hall entry bulletin board. Thanks for helping out!

The Ladies Group Spring Rummage Sale is only two weeks away:

Friday, May 29 from 3-7 p.m. and
Saturday, May 30, from 9 am – Noon.

You can bring any saleable items to the Hall on Sundays or during office hours
(Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.) or by arrangement with the Ladies Group.

Thanks for your support our sale!

Congratulations to William (Bill) Watson, son of Tony and Colleen Watson, a recipient of the *Turnaround Achievement Award* at the recent 31st annual Kingswood Turnaround Achievement Awards. Bill will be graduating from Fredericton High School in June. Well done, Bill, we are very proud of you!

Grad Season! If you know anyone who is graduating from high school, community college, university or another educational institution in 2026, we would like to honour them. Please submit any names, with pertinent details of their graduation, to Saint Andrew's office a.s.a.p.

Current Needs of our Outreach Programs:

The Pantry: Vinegar (1 Liter size); baking soda; cake mix, canned tuna

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

All donations are most appreciated!

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Tuesdays ~ **Ladies Group - Hall, at 9:30 am ~ All are welcome!**
Tues. & Thurs. ~ **Quilting Group - Ladies' Parlour, from 1- 4 pm ~ All are welcome!**
Wednesdays ~ **Pantry Program - Basement, from 9 -11 am.**
Thursdays ~ **Bible Study - in the Study', 6-7 pm ~ All are welcome!**
~ **Choir Practice - Hall, at 7 pm ~ All are welcome!**
Fridays ~ **Breakfast 2 Go, Hall entrance, 8:30 - 10 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/@st.paulsunitedchurch984/videos>