

**Saint Andrew's Presbyterian
and St. Paul's United
Ecumenical Shared Ministry**
Sept.136, 2026 - 10:30 a.m.
16th Sunday after Pentecost



**Today we again welcome
the Rev. Darry Levy,
leading us in worship.**

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

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St. Paul's

Melissa Howard

**Hours vary and
email is monitored.**

Please reach out.

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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

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

One: Praise the God of life.

All: Let us praise God together.

One: For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's steadfast love;

**All: as far as the east is from the west,
so far God removes our sins.**

One: So let us rejoice in God's gracious presence.

All: Let us praise the God of mercy together.

Opening Hymn:

TBoP 651

'Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer'

**1./ Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.**

**2./ Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my Strength and Shield;
be thou still my Strength and Shield.**

*3./ When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

God of might and mercy, the heavens and the earth are full of glory. Your love transforms our lives. You enter our confusion and give insight. You bear our grief and bring healing. You see our fatigue and renew strength. You sense our fear and spark courage. You know death and raise up new life. So we come before you in worship, handing over to you all that weighs us down. Renew us in this time of worship, we pray, so that we may serve you with joy in Jesus' name.

Out of a desire to begin again with you and one another, we confess to you our sins: Merciful God, our lives do not always reflect your transforming power. You are gracious, but we cling to judgment. You are kind, but we can be cruel. You are forgiving, but we nurse grudges and old wounds. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, and make us new through Christ, your Son and our Saviour. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Know that you are forgiven by his grace and be at peace with God, with yourselves and with each other. Amen.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Understanding: (Unison)

God of wisdom, prepare our hearts and minds to receive your Word. Where it challenges us, lead us by your Spirit to respond in faithfulness for the sake of Christ who gives us both courage and compassion. Amen.

The Scriptures:

Responsive Psalm: # 114

¹ When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

² **Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.**

³ The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.

⁴ **The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.**

⁵ Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?

⁶ **O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?**

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ **who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.**

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.'

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

(Response:) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?'

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything."

²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

(Response:) The Gospel for the People, ***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

Choir Anthem: 'Come and Follow Me'

~ Cohen

Message: "Oh The Trouble We Can Get Into - Part 2".

Hymn of Response:

'We Have Heard A Joyful Sound'

TBoP 681

1/ We have heard the joyful sound,

Jesus saves, Jesus saves!

Spread the gladness all around:

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Bear the news to every land,

climb the steeps and cross the waves;

onward! 'tis our Lord's command:

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

2/ Waft it on the rolling tide,

Jesus saves, Jesus saves!

Tell to sinners far and wide,

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Sing, ye islands of the sea,

echo back, ye ocean's caves;

earth shall keep her jubilee:

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

3/ Sing above the battle's strife,

Jesus saves, Jesus saves!

By his death and endless life,

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Sing it softly through the gloom,

*when the heart for mercy craves;
sing in triumph o'er the tomb,
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!*

*4/ Give the winds a mighty voice,
Jesus saves, Jesus saves!
Let the nations now rejoice:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Shout salvation full and free
to every strand that ocean laves;
this our song of victory,
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!*

Invitation to the Offering: (Unison)

From generation to generation, God calls us to share God's redeeming love in the world.
Let us offer our gifts this day as tokens of that love, needed so much in our generation.

Doxology: (Unison)

*'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)

We give thanks to you, O God, because you have blessed us with so much. Yet we know that others have too little. Bless our gifts so they touch lives in need and become roots of justice in the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who sends us out in love. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

God of grace and new life, we come before you today, glad to know you give us the chance to change our lives when we have wandered away from your purposes. We give you thanks for the encouragement and support we receive from friends in Christ, here in your church and wherever we meet them. We thank you for relationships that have grown stronger through the courage to forgive which you inspire in us. Use us as signs and servants of the new possibilities you create. God of changed hearts,

(All): **Renew the future for us all.**

Christ our Companion, make our community one that lives out your grace and mercy.

Today we pray for those among us and around us who are struggling to live wisely and well, who seek a way of integrity for the future. We pray for those who are confronting addictions or trying to change old habits that are harmful to health: give them persistence and support. We pray for those who want to end violence and anger in their lives: give them courage and wisdom to walk a new way.

God of changed hearts,

(All): **Renew the future for us all.**

We pray for those who have broken the law and now seek to make amends: inspire us with

good judgement and grace in action and relationships. We pray for those who have broken their word and want to rebuild trust and integrity: show them how to take responsibility and live it out.

God of changed hearts,

(All): **Renew the future for us all.**

We pray for those who are seeking new work, learning new skills, or changing employment: open new opportunities for them. We pray for all of us who seek new ways to live out our faith in this church and in this community: help us communicate God's love in fresh ways so others catch the vision of your love.

God of changed hearts,

(All): **Renew the future for us all.**

We pray in silence for all those for whom the week ahead will hold deep challenges, and who need your support and ours to face what the days will bring

(Silence)

Spirit of transforming power, work in us and in all for whom we pray, as we sum up our prayers in the words Jesus taught us:

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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN.

WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY

Closing Hymn:

'Called As Partners In Christ's Service'

TBoP 587

***1/ Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace
May we learn the art of sharing
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfil God's chosen end.***

***2/ Christ's example Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer;
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together,
gracious gifts from God unfold.***

**3/ Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**4/ So God grant us for tomorrow,
ways to order human life,
that surround each person's sorrow,
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.**

Commissioning & Benediction:

Jesus set the challenging goal before us: to forgive someone not just seven times, but seventy times seven. So take up the challenge as you go, and allow forgiveness to change your life. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and communion of the Holy Spirit bless and redeem you now and evermore.

Postlude: Fugue in C'

~ Buxtehude

¹ Liturgy: PCC Worship Planner 2026.09.13; ² Scripture: biblegateway.com NRSVA

Good Morning Everyone!

***May this service be a blessing to you
as we continue to worship together each week, in person and online.
Please join us following service for refreshments and fellowship in the Hall!***

Thank you to today's Volunteers

Greeters - Carole Peacock and Jean Boudreau

Scripture Readers - Jean Boudreau (Psalm), Barbara Cull-Wilby (Old Testament)

Audio/Visual - Beth and Shawn Meister, Glynis Martin

SA's Counters - Treasurer & Assistant / ***SP's Tellers*** - Gail Simmons & Carole Peacock

Refreshments - Beth and Shawn Meister and Kim Keech

Sunday Fellowship Schedule

September 20th – Bill Cockburn & Iara Guerriero

October 4th – Beth & Shawn Meister and Kim Keech

October 18th – *Volunteers needed!*

September 27th – *Volunteers needed!*

October 11th – *Volunteers needed!*

October 25th – The Simpsons

Thanks to all those who have started the process of filling the slots on the Fall roster!

The sign up sheet is located outside the Kitchen door, on the Hall entrance bulletin board.

Current Needs of our Outreach Programs

The Pantry: Diced tomatoes, spaghetti noodles, salt, baking soda, cake mix, individual puddings (any flavour). **Breakfast 2 Go:** Cheez Whiz, cans of ham, chicken, turkey, fish; peanut butter; instant coffee; nutritional drinks; mini cereal boxes; TP.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

The Presbyterian Connection (Fall 2026 edition) is available on the Hall entry side table.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Group, 9:30 a.m. in the Hall. We are always happy to welcome new members!

Choir Practice ~ Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Hall. We are always recruiting singers; you are welcome to join us any Thursday evening and check us out!

The Fredericton Choral Society (FCS) begins its fall 2026 season with a rehearsal/reception on **Monday, September 14, from 7 - 9 pm** at Christ Church Parish Church, corner of Westmorland and Charlotte Streets. Rehearsals are held at the church each Monday from 7-9 pm. The FCS is a non-auditioned choir, welcoming singers of all levels. For more information, please contact **fcs-exec@googlegroups.com**. ~ Greg Geldart, FCS Music Director

Parking Reminder - There are 2 dedicated parking spaces in our lot: Minister & Organist. Please respect this 24/7; there is 1 space to park with a disability permit and several more available on Charlotte St. directly in front of the church. There is extra parking for *Sunday services only* at *Bright Minds Early Learning Centre* (486 Needham St.) a 2 min. walk out Carleton St. to the West door of the church, at the corner of Carleton & Charlotte Streets.

If you or your family need pastoral care, please contact Rev. Ellen Beirsto - by text at her cell number - (506) 474-2324. Her contact info. is also available 24/7 on our shared office voicemail greeting message.

Can't attend Sunday Service in person? Consider joining us online.

Worship via Zoom - Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287> **Passcode: 2023**