

**Saint Andrew's Presbyterian
and St. Paul's United
Ecumenical Shared Ministry**
Sept. 20, 2026 - 10:30 a.m.
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Every day I will bless You, And I will
praise Your name forever and ever.

Psalms 145:2



Leading us in worship today:
The Rev. Dr. Stephen McAllister
Guest Organist - Greg Geldart
Violinist - Sylbie Roy

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

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is monitored.**

Please reach out.

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Our Address

**512 Charlotte Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 1M2**

*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: 'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing' &
'Be Thou My Vision' ~ Arr. Stephanie Immordino
(Sylbie Roy and Greg Geldart)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

Give thanks to God who is good.

**We will call on God's name and make known
God's wonderful works.**

Seek the Lord continually.

We will watch and listen for signs of God's grace.
Together let us worship God.

**We will rejoice in God's presence
and praise God's holy name.**

Opening Hymn:

TBoP #103

'O Lord, Thou Art My God and King'
(Words: Psalm 145)

**1/ O Lord, thou art my God and King;
thee will I magnify and praise:
I will thee bless and gladly sing
unto thy holy name always.**

**2/ Thee I will bless each day I rise,
and praise thy name, time without end;
much to be praised, and great God is,
whose greatness none can comprehend.**

**3/ Thy saints shall praise thy glorious name;
thy mighty acts they shall declare;
thy wondrous works I will proclaim
and meditate on them with prayer.**

**4/ Thy might shall be by all extolled; thy glorious grace I will record;
with all my strength I will unfold thy great and mighty acts, O Lord.**

**5/ Thy faithful shall make known the fame of thy great goodness and shall bless
the splendour of thy glorious name, praising aloud thy righteousness.**

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

God of all creation, you open the world around us and fill it with creatures of your love and purpose. The wonder of each creature declares your praise – the mountains state your majesty; the ripened field, your generosity; the oceans your power and the skies your grandeur. Birds sing of your freedom; the ant works with your persistence. We pray that our work will honour your justice and mercy, and our relationships speak of your love and compassion.

So may we praise you, O God, not just in this hour of worship, but in all our waking and our working. May we live your praise and promise through Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and always. In confidence of your grace, we confess to you our sins:

God, you are the giver of all good gifts, yet our generosity is often limited. We complain about our circumstance. We compare ourselves to others and see what they have that we do not. We share some of what we have, but we worry about running short. Forgive us our jealousy and greed and give us generous hearts that trust in you day by day. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin again. Thanks be to God!

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Understanding: (Unison)

Holy God, your thoughts are not our thoughts, and your ways are not our ways. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, guide us by your Spirit, so that our thoughts and our ways are transformed by your grace, through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

The Scriptures:

Responsive Psalm: 145:1-9

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 1:19 -30

Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my salvation. ²⁰ It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way but that by my speaking with all boldness Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

The Laborers in the Vineyard

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius.

¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

Choir Anthem: *'O Come Ye Servants of the Lord'*

~ Tye

Message: 'My Grace is Sufficient'

Hymn of Response:

'To Show By Touch and Word'

TBoP #763

*1/ To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find the good you had of old in mind.*

*2/ Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face we need your guidance and your grace.*

*3/ Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have your wits about us where we live.*

Invitation to the Offering: (Unison)

In glad thanksgiving for God's graciousness and blessings, we return to God a portion of what we have received.

Doxology: (Unison)

'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: (Unison)

Generous God, you are the source of all good things, of life itself and all that sustains it. Bless the gifts we offer this day. By your Spirit, multiply their impact to support your purposes in the world you love in the name of Christ, our Saviour and Friend. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

God of mystery and wonder, we look around at the beauty of the world and sense that you have given each precious thing its place and a way of sustaining itself. Thank you for your attention to the details of creation.

Yet we also see an aching world and sense that many precious things are under threat. Bless the work of faithful people everywhere to care for the climate and environment. Show us how we can protect what is at risk for the health of your whole creation.

God our Maker,

make us a sharing people.

God of energy and life, we look around at the peoples of this world and see your imagination and dignity in every variety of face and culture.

Thank you for the gifts you plant at the heart of humanity.

Yet we also see the aching of the hungry and hurting, and hear the groans of parents whose children die in their arms and the cries of children who fear tomorrow.

Bless the ministries of your church across this country and around the world that bring healing and hope to lives at risk.

God our Maker,

make us a sharing people.

God of promise and possibility, we look around at the places where people collide with each other and hear the grumbling of nations locked into old rivalries and new grievances.

We watch the jousting of leaders impressed more by polls than effective policies.

We worry about the future of our communities and our children.

Thank you for the ministries of advocacy your church undertakes and the witness for justice and peace we make together in Jesus' name.

God our Maker,

make us a sharing people.

God of faithfulness and surprise, we look at ourselves and sometimes doubt we can make a difference or have an impact. Challenge us to recognise the kinds of power we do have:

The love and compassion,

The courage and commitment,

The laughter and friendship,

The generosity and mercy.

In all of these gifts we know your power is at work within us and among us.

Call us to keep serving together, trusting you can do more than we can ask or imagine through your church, our congregation, and our own lives, blessed by the grace of Jesus Christ who taught us to pray:

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:

'Christ, You Call Us All to Service'

TBoP #585

**1 Christ, you call us all to service, call us all who follow you;
plant in us a deep commitment all your work and will to do.
Fire a passion for your justice, in us kindle love of peace;
help us heal the brokenhearted, to the captive bring release.**

**2 Teach us how to work together, brothers, sisters, side by side,
equal partners in the struggle, in the cause of truth allied.
To each one some gift is given - man or woman, young or old;
help us use each skill and talent your great purpose to unfold.**

**3 Let us be a servant people, reconciling, ending strife,
seeking ways more just of sharing and of ordering human life.
Fill us with a glowing vision of this world as it should be;
send us forth to change that vision into blest reality.**

Commissioning & Benediction:

Go, remembering God's generosity to us in Christ and in creation. Be generous in kindness to all who reach out to you. May the power of the Spirit strengthen you, and the love of Christ that surpasses all knowledge fill you with the fullness of God this day and evermore.

Postlude: 'Voluntary in D Major'

~ William Selby

¹ Liturgy: PCC Worship Planner 2026.09.20; ² Scripture: <http://www.biblegateway.com> (NRSVUE)

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 - Mary Stickles, Valarie Gallagher

Scripture Readers - Sandra Steeves (Psalm), Cathy Davis (NT Lesson)

Audio/Visual - Beth and Shawn Meister, Glynis Martin

SA's Counters - Treasurer & Assistant / ***SP's Tellers*** - Laura Steeves and Alan Thorne

Refreshments - Bill Cockburn & Iara Guerriero

Sunday Fellowship (Refreshments) Schedule

September 27th – Chris Grant

October 4th – Beth & Shawn Meister and Kim Keech

October 11th – *Volunteers needed!* (Thanksgiving Sunday)

October 18th – *Volunteers needed!*

October 25th – The Simpsons

Thank you to those who have signed up; there are still a few empty slots for October.

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!

Weekly Congregational Activities

Tuesdays ~ Ladies Group, in the Hall: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. All are welcome!!
Tues. & Thurs. ~ Quilting Group, Parlour - 1-4 p.m. ~ All are welcome!
Wednesdays ~ Pantry Program, Basement - 9-11 a.m. - Basement
Thursdays ~ Choir Practice, in the Hall: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. ~ All are welcome!
Fridays ~ Breakfast 2 Go, Hall entrance - 9 - 10:30 a.m.

CONNECTING WITH REV. MICHELLE ~ PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Michelle can be reached at either office number: **(506) 455-8220** or **(506) 458-1183**, or on her direct office line: **(506) 455-0639**, or by text or call her cell number: **(506) 259-7602** or via email at michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com

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.

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

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