

DOWNTOWN UNITED +
A Service of St. Paul's, Wilmot & St. Andrews
Fredericton, N.B.

July 30th, 2023

9th after Pentecost

10:30 AM

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Tell Me the Story of Jesus – arr. M. McDonald

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: ¹

GREETING AND WELCOME:

The peace of Christ and the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(In Unison)*

Dear God, as we come together on this 9th Sunday after Pentecost, let our hearts and minds be open and filled with the beauty of love and the nature that surrounds us. Let us hear the song birds, feel the wind on our faces and know it is you that created it all for us. Remind us that we have been given this as a gift from you and to be good stewards of this earth, your earth, our earth. For our greed, selfishness, and lack of caring that we sometimes show, we ask now for your forgiveness. Show us the Way, the Word and the Light. We are your faithful and humble servants. Amen

OPENING PRAYER: *(In Unison)*

Fit us, O God, for this new day. Through your Spirit, grant us courage so that today's uncertainties may not overwhelm us. Through your Christ, fill us with love so that differences may not divide us. Through your creative energy, make us new, so that the past does not enslave us. Spirit, Christ, Creator, lead us into newness of life.

OPENING HYMN: *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

VU 375

*[R] Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. R*

*You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. R*

*You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. R*

*You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise. R*

SHARING THE WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES:

WORDS OF ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE:

Genesis 29:15–28

Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

REFLECTION:

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

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.*

GATHERING OUR GIFTS:

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER:

CLOSING HYMN: *We Shall Go Out With Hope Of Resurrection*

VU 586

*We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.*

*We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.*

*We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.*

*We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.*

SENDING FORTH: ²

Go out into the world, and labour to bring forth new life. Dream dreams, pursue visions and speak of God's goodness in the words of those who would hear. And may the God who breathed life into creation be your delight. May Christ Jesus gives hope to your dreaming, and may the Holy Spirit, be your advocate and supporter, set your hearts ablaze with a passion for peace. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
...In the name of Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: Praise Him! Praise Him! – arr. M. McDonald

1 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Letters and Papers from Prison*
2 copyright © 2003 Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net

Scripture Readers: Narrator - Ron Naugler, Jesus - Deborah West, Jacob - Chris Grant,
Laban & Crowd - Cathy Davis

Greeters: Mary Stickles and Ron Naugler **Audio Visual:** John Davis

St. Paul's United Church

Our Mission: Glorifying God through Worship, Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and Serving Others in Christ's name.

FEATURED IN THIS JULY 27TH EDITION OF ST. PAUL'S ENEWS

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY JULY 30TH

ST. PAUL'S SUMMER APPEALS

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS NEEDED

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

PANTRY PROGRAM

WARK/ST. PAUL'S SCHOLARSHIPS – DEADLINE JULY 31ST

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY JULY 30TH

Please join Rev. Bev for service at St. Paul's at 10:30am on July 30th, 2023

ST. PAUL'S SUMMER APPEALS

Over the summer, we hope you are keeping St. Paul's will be close to your heart, even if you are away traveling or enjoying some cottage time. In July, please think about the Pantry, which really requires "extra" attention. In August, when it can be very warm, consider contributing towards the Boiler! In the Bulletin, a special envelope will be inserted, giving you an opportunity to contribute to that committee. The life and work of St. Paul's is ongoing. We hope you will remain an important part of the Church Family.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

St. Paul's is collecting donations of school supplies in an effort to provide for those who can't afford these necessities. **Items needed include: backpacks, lunch sets, reusable water bottles, lined paper, coil**

notebooks, large zippered binders, dividers, pencil cases, markers, pens, pencils, scissors, glue, rulers, math sets, etc. A donation tax receipt will be issued for items with a receipt. Cash donations are also welcome! Items can be dropped off at the office. If you know of someone in need of school supplies, please let Meghan know so they can be added to the list.

(Large zippered binders have been recently seen on sale at Costco for \$16.99!)

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Have you ever been interested in helping your church community move forward? The Board at St. Paul's is looking for 2 new members. The positions that need to be filled are general director and secretary. If interested, please contact Donna Chauvin.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS NEEDED

HEY ADULTS! Are you available to help with the Sunday School for three-week stretches? We are looking for leaders to help share the love of God with our youngest congregation members. All serving in the Sunday School will need to provide a valid vulnerable sector police record check. If interested, please contact Erin Hayes at hayes.erin11@gmail.com!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program is in desperate need of proteins with flip top lids juice, pudding cups, granola bars, and fruit cups. Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program.

PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items this week: Baked beans, ketchup, tuna, relish, puddings, brown sugar, juice boxes, miracle whip, tooth brushes, white sugar, cake mix and frosting, basmati rice, canned peaches, canned corn, and Mr. Clean. Thank you for your continued support!

WARK/ST. PAUL'S SCHOLARSHIPS – DEADLINE JULY 31ST

Students who are members or adherents of St. Paul's and who plan to pursue post-secondary studies this fall are invited to apply for financial support from the Wark/St. Paul's Scholarship Funds. Details on eligibility and application guidelines are available at [Scholarships & Bursaries – St. Paul's United Church \(stpaulsunited.ca\)](http://stpaulsunited.ca) Applications deadline: July 31st.

PASTORAL CARE

Emergency pastoral care calls are to be directed to Bev Sharpe who will be covering while Michelle is on Sabbatical. Her contact information is 506-471-4326.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

SUMMER SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S

July 30th ~ Downtown United Service with Bev Sharpe at 10:30 followed by Fellowship Hour
~ Hosted by Worship Committee

August 6th ~ Downtown United Service with Rev. Darryl at 10:30 followed by
Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by the Trustees

All services at St. Paul's can be viewed later on YouTube at [St. Paul's United Church - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvYpYcjYxRFFNZWdiQT09)

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN'S CHURCH

512 Charlotte St. Fredericton | Tel.455-8220

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287?pwd=RFhERHZiU0hHbVpYcjYxRFFNZWdiQT09>

Meeting ID: 836 7375 6287 Passcode: 839092

August 13th ~ Downtown United Service with Rev. Darryl Leading

August 20th ~ Downtown United Service at with Rev. Mary from Wilmot Leading

August 27th ~ Downtown United Service at Bev Sharpe from St. Paul's Leading

September 3rd ~ Downtown United Service with Rev. Darryl Leading



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

190 Years of Glorifying God through Worship, Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and Serving Others in Christ's name

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Minister: Rev. Michelle Armstrong | **Organists:** Dr. Sharon Pond & Alexis Ervin

Church Administrator: Meghan Roebuck | **Custodian:** Rusty Blakely