

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

190 Years of Glorifying God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ, and serving others in Christ's name.

Oct 8th, 2023

Thanksgiving Sunday

10:30 AM

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ~ Mark 12:28-31

GATHERING AS GOD'S OWN

PRELUDE: Gabriel's Oboe ~ Morricone

WELCOME

GREETING: *(Responsive)*

God be with you.

And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE: *(Responsive)*

Once there was someone who said such wonderful things and did such amazing things that people began to follow him. One day they asked him who he was, and he responded, "I am the light."

This light is present in our world and in ourselves. This light draws us here today, on this day to celebrate, with all creation, so let us sing!

INTROIT: *This is the Day*

MV 122

This is the day that God has made;

We will rejoice and be glad!

This is the day that God has made;

We will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!

We will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!

We will rejoice and be glad!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*

In deep gratitude, we come to worship God.

**We recognize God as the source of all goodness,
who has been faithful through the generations.**

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are God's gifts to us,
given freely when we follow Christ's way.**

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

Grateful that God shows us who God is

So, we gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.

With thankfulness in our hearts, we worship this day.

GATHERING HYMN: *All Creatures of Our God and King*

VU 217

*All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
sing praises, sing praises,
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
sing praises, hallelujah!*

*O rising morn, in praise rejoice;
O lights of evening, find a voice:
sing praises, sing praises,
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Earth, ever fertile, day by day
brings forth rich blessings on our way:
sing praises, hallelujah!*

*The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*And everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part:
sing praises, hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and yield up all your care:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!*

*Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

OPENING PRAYER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

STORY TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 5:1-21, 6:4-9

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Canticle of Thanksgiving ~ Schweizer

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HYMN: *Spirit, Open My Heart*

MV 79

Refrain:

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.*

*God replace my stony heart with a heart that's pure and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. R*

*Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. R*

*May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. R*

BRINGING FORWARD OUR GIFTS FOR GOD

DEDICATION VERSE: *Grant Us, God, the Grace*

VU 540

*Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(In Unison)*

O God of many spectacular gifts, we give thanks for your generosity. You make us your people and teach us your way. You promise to be with us always and provide for what we most need. We want to follow you, so we offer with gratitude the work of our hands and the labour of our hearts. Bless and sanctify what we give, so that your love grows and spreads, bringing wholeness and hope. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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,
forever and ever. AMEN

GOING FORTH WITH GOD

CLOSING HYMN: *Though I May Speak*

VU 372

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.*

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

CHORAL CLOSING: *Go to the World*

VU 420 v2

*Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

POSTLUDE: Festival Alleluia ~ Miller

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Cathy Davis, Moses – Andrew Steeves, Lord – Ann Krause
Greeter: Mary Stickles *Audio Visual:* John Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO EVERYONE! May this worship service be a blessing in your day as we continue to worship together each week in person and by Zoom.



IMPORTANT SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 15TH

An Important Special Congregational Meeting will be held on **October 15th** following service. We highly encourage all congregants young and old to attend. This will be a time of sharing information that is needed to inform important decisions before our congregation. Mark your calendars today! The link to the agenda is can be found on our website stpaulsunited.ca under the resources tab or [here](#).

FUNDSCRIP ORDERS DUE SUNDAY

The deadline for our next gift card order is **Sunday, October 8th** (Thanksgiving). You can leave your order and payment at the church office during the week if you plan to be away for the holiday. Order forms are available in the office and the Narthex or by clicking here [Oct 8th FundScrip Order Form.pdf](#). If you are not yet a FundScrip shopper and would like more information about this fundraising program, Carole Peacock will be happy to answer your questions. Remember: *Shopping is fundraising for St. Paul's!*



CALL FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Do you have something you want to share with the congregation? Do you have a story or inspirational moment to share about the ministry here at St. Paul's? Do you have a poem or prayer or trivia that fits with Advent & and Christmas? If your committee or group is planning any activities between now and the new year, get your dates set today so they can go in the newsletter! Your pieces can be sent to Meghan at the office by Friday October 13th.

FALL COMMUNITY MEAL AT ST. PAUL'S

Please join us at St. Paul's on **October 18th at 5:30pm** for Fall Community Meal in the hall. Local Red Seal Chefs, Shawn & Beth Meister, have kindly volunteered to host this event to raise funds for St. Paul's. On the menu is mustard & brown sugar glazed ham, brown butter mashed potato, seasonal vegetables, roll, tea & coffee, and Apple crumble with ice cream for dessert. Tickets are **\$30 each**, via cash or e-transfer to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com and available for pick up at the office Monday-Friday 8am-3pm or on Sunday. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with set-up, serving and clean-up. Please sign up on the Volunteer Sign-Up sheet on the bulletin board outside the office or by contacting Meghan in the office.



EVENING SMALL GROUP FAITH EXPLORATION STARTS

Thursday October 12th at 6-7pm in the Parlor. We are having our first evening study group meeting. This group is for those seeking to grow in their relationship with God through scripture, prayer, and action. We will be using an adult model of learning, drawing on the knowledge we each hold and reflecting on where faith story touched your life. If this is of interest to you, please contact Rev. Michelle michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com or 506-259-7602.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Do you enjoy coffee and conversation after church? Do you bake? Can you pour a cup of coffee? Are you willing to learn how to use the dishwasher? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you are who we need. This post-service ministry is a great way to support and serve the community without being part of a committee. You have the flexibility to serve for one Sunday or more if it fits with your schedule. If you can help support the committees in this important community time, please sign up in Fraiser Memorial Hall or by calling Meghan in the office.

BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY READING

Mondays 11:00-12:00pm. We are venturing into a new format for our exploration. Dig into the scriptures, join with others as we seek to deepen our relationship with God. No prior experience needed.



BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program needs **proteins with flip top lids.** Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program.

PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry program needs the following items this week: coffee mate, mustard, crackers, jam, rice, cookies, peanut butter, bowl noodles, peas, sugar, chunky soup – beef, flour, Cheez Whiz, rolled oats, canned mixed veggies, canned fruit, laundry detergent, and toothbrushes. Thank you for your continued support!

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 8th** ~ Thanksgiving Sunday ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by the Choir
 - October 15th** ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by Worship ~ Congregational Meeting to follow
 - October 18th** ~ Fall Community Dinner at St. Paul's at 5:30pm
 - October 22nd** ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by the Trustees
 - October 29th** ~ Fellowship Hour ~ Hosted by the Board
 - November 5th** ~ Anniversary Sunday
 - November 12th** ~ Remembrance Day Sunday
 - November 13th** ~ Office Closed for Remembrance Day Stat Holiday
 - November 19th** ~ Memorial Hymn Sing
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TAKE-OUT SALMON SUPPER

New Maryland United Church Men's Club is hosting a Take-Out Salmon Supper on Sunday, **October 15th** at the New Maryland Centre (754 New Maryland Hwy.). Tickets are \$20 ea. (pick-up times: 4 pm, 4:30 pm, 5 pm, or 5:30 pm). To book tickets contact Keith Ball at 455-1948 or the church 459-3313 and leave a message.

COVENANTING SERVICE

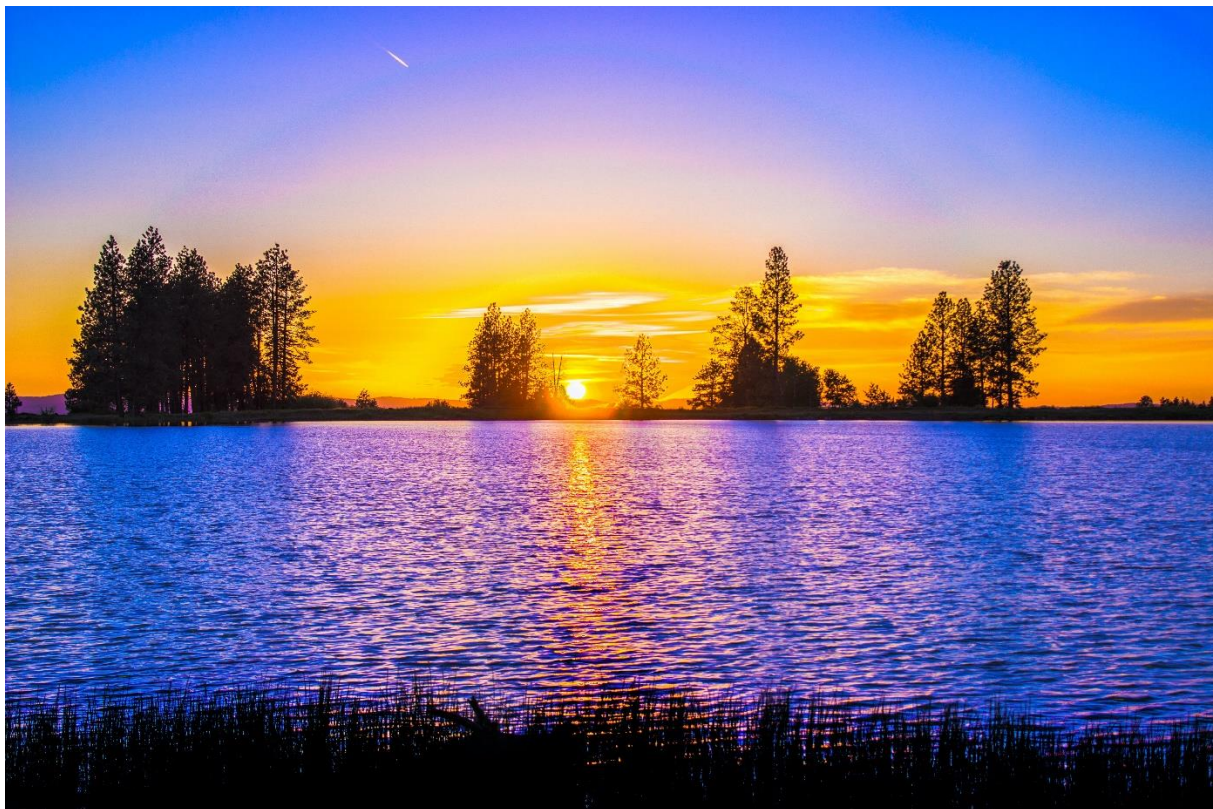
All are welcome to attend the covenanting service for our new minister, Rev. Richard Bowley, at Nashwaaksis United, on **Sunday, October 15th – 2:00pm.** Reception to follow.

FRAUD/SCAMMING SESSION

The Nashwaaksis United Pastoral Care Committee will be hosting this session, to be held in the auditorium of Nashwaaksis United, on **Tuesday, October 17th at 7:00pm.** Guest speaker will be Constable Mike Bamford of the Fredericton City Police. A question and answer period will follow and light refreshments will be served. All are welcome!

CHILI TAKE-OUT DINNER

Friday November 3rd, 4:00-5:30pm at Nashwaaksis United. Menu - Mild Chili, Caesar Salad, Roll and Apple Crisp. The cost is \$15.00 per person. To reserve your meal, please call the church office at 506-458-9452 or email admin@nashwaaksisunited.ca



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CONTACT INFORMATION

224 York St., Fredericton, NB E3B 3P1

Web: www.stpaulsunited.ca | Tel: 506-458-1183 | Email: stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com

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

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