

# SAINT ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN & ST. PAUL'S UNITED

Fredericton, N.B.

February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 AM

*We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which 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 Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.*

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

**PRELUDE:** Peaceful Meditation

~ Fey

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**INTROIT:** *Open our Hearts*

**MV 21**

*Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(Responsive)*

We come to this sanctuary seeking God's light for our lives,

**In our struggles we come, seeking God's strength and wisdom.**

We come to this sanctuary seeking to offer worship,

**In our joy we come, offering praise and thanksgiving.**

In our coming to this sanctuary, we are greeted by the Holy One,

**We experience God through this community of faithful people.**

So we gather in this place, where mercy and justice, hope and healing can be found.

## OUR APPROACH TO GOD

**OPENING PRAYER**

**HYMN:** *O Lord My God! / How Great Thou Art*

**TBoP 332**

*O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed,*

**Refrain:**

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

*When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze, R*

*And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin, R*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, 'my God, how great thou art!' R*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** *(In Unison)* <sup>1</sup>

God, whose name is love,  
we confess our faults and failings,  
knowing you know us through and through.  
You tell us that love is patient and kind,  
and you know when our patience and kindness fall short.  
You tell us love is never rude or selfish,  
and you see the times we insist on our own way.  
You tell us to reach out in love for the healing of our world,  
yet you know when we withdraw into ourselves and refuse to shine.  
Forgive us the excuses we make to ourselves when our love falters.  
Strengthen us by your Spirit so that our love is genuine and reliable just like yours. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** <sup>2</sup>

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART**

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

**THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:** *(In Unison)* <sup>3</sup>

God of wisdom, your Word brings life and hope.  
By the power of your Spirit, open our minds to understanding,  
teach our hearts to love,  
and strengthen our wills to follow Jesus, your Living Word. Amen.

**RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 119:105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet,  
**and a light to my path.**  
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,  
**to observe your righteous ordinances.**  
I am severely afflicted;  
**give me life, O Lord, according to your word.**  
Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,  
**and teach me your ordinances.**  
I hold my life in my hand continually,  
**but I do not forget your law.**  
The wicked have laid a snare for me,  
**but I do not stray from your precepts.**  
Your decrees are my heritage forever;

**they are the joy of my heart.**

I incline my heart to perform your statutes  
forever, to the end.

**FOCAL READING:** Luke 7:1-17

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** The Grace Divine

~ Price

**MESSAGE**

### **OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE:** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

VU 271

*There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in God's justice  
which is more than liberty.*

*There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such gracious judgement given.*

*There is plentiful redemption  
in the blood that Christ has shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the Head.*

*Troubled souls, why will you scatter  
like a crowd of frightened sheep?  
Foolish hearts, why will you wander  
from a love so true and deep?*

*For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind,  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.*

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**DOXOLOGY:** *(In Unison)*

*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:** *(In Unison)* <sup>4</sup>

God of life and love, we are grateful for all you have given us in Christ and in creation,  
in community and in the Church that bears Jesus' name.

We offer our gifts to you in love, trusting you will bless them and us.

May all that we offer become tangible expressions of your love at work in the world for Christ's sake. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER:** *(In Unison)*

*(We recognize a variety of ways to pray the Lord's Prayer. You are invited to pray using the words that speak to you and the language of your choice.)*

**WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY**

**HYMN:** *Go Forth for God*

VU 418

*Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;  
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,  
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,  
till in the kingdom we see face to face.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.*

*Go forth for God, go to the world in love;  
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;  
help the afflicted; richly from above  
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.*

*Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;  
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;  
render to no one evil; Christ at length  
shall overcome all darkness with his light.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.*

*Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,  
to serve God's people every day and hour,  
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,  
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.  
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.*

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING MUSIC:** *When Jesus Came to be Baptized*

VU 100 vs 4

*O Spirit help us be like Christ:  
to live in love and charity,  
to walk in truth and justice now,  
and grow in Christian dignity.*

**POSTLUDE:** Trumpet Tune No. 5

~ Fey

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Presbyterian Church in Canada, *Worship Planner*, February 2, 2025

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from Teri Peterson, *Bibleworm Liturgy*, February 9, 2025

<sup>3</sup> The Presbyterian Church in Canada *Worship Planner* Feb 23, 2025

<sup>4</sup> The Presbyterian Church in Canada, *Worship Planner*, February 2, 2025

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**Thank you to our Volunteers today!**

**Scripture Readers:** Psalm Leader & Friend – Murray McEachen, Narrator – Alanna Palmer, Jesus – Debbie West

**Greeters:** Mary Stickles & Jean & Alan Boudreau

**Audio/Visual:** Beth & Shawn Meister & Glynis Martin

# 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. Can't make it in person, join via **Zoom**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287> Passcode: 2023 View anytime on **YouTube** here: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.paulsunitedchurch984/videos>

## ST. PAUL'S 2024 TAX RECEIPTS AVAILABLE!

St. Paul's 2024 Tax Receipts are available for pick up. They will be in the back of the church for the next two weeks. The remaining envelopes will be mailed after the 10<sup>th</sup> of February. Please contact Meghan at [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com) or 506-458-1183 if you have any questions regarding your annual contribution statement.

## THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Evening bible study will take place from 6-7pm in Rev. Michelle's office. This will be a Lectio Divina style engagement with the scripture reading for the coming Sunday. Everyone is welcome!



## COFFEE/FELLOWSHIP HOUR VOLUNTEERS

Heather Labadie is coordinating our Coffee/Fellowship Hour volunteers. Thanks to those who have already responded to her. If you would like to get involved too, please contact her at [heather.labadie@gmail.com](mailto:heather.labadie@gmail.com). You could offer to do a complete "hour" yourself, or you could volunteer to help someone else out. If you are new to this "task", Heather will pair you up with someone who is experienced. If you would like to volunteer to just look after the coffee and tea (and not the snacks), let Heather know. If you would like to provide snacks, but not make the coffee/tea, Heather will work with you to share with someone else who may not want to do the snacks. ~ Mary Charters

## BOOKING MEETING SPACE

As the use of our space gets busier, please remember to book your meeting space through the office. Drop by in person, call 506-455-8220 or 506-458-1183 or email [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com) and [sapcfred@gmail.com](mailto:sapcfred@gmail.com). Both offices use a shared online calendar so we can ensure space is available for your meeting.

## ST. PAUL'S PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry items needed this week are laundry & dish soap, Mr. Clean, Javex, salt, Oreo cookies, vinegar, Miracle Whip, corn, flour, white rice, Rice Crispies, Corn Flakes, icing sugar, juice boxes, paper towel, tin foil, waxed paper & plastic wrap. Thank you for your ongoing support!

## 2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you have not yet picked up your offering envelopes for 2025, they are available in your respective church office and can be picked during regular office hours. If you need yours dropped off, please let us know.



## ONGOING CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Monday – Friday** ~ Community Outreach ~ Brown Bag Lunch Program in St. Paul's Office  
**Tuesdays** ~ Tuesday Morning Ladies Group at 9:30am ~ *All are welcome!*  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays** ~ Quilting from 1-4pm ~ *All are welcome!*  
**Wednesdays** ~ Community Outreach ~ Pantry Program from 9-11am  
**Thursdays** ~ Bible Study from 6-7pm ~ *All are Welcome!*  
**Thursdays** ~ Choir Practice from 7-8pm ~ *All are welcome!*  
**Fridays** ~ Community Outreach ~ Breakfast 2 Go from 8:30-10am

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES

An invitation is extended to all Women and Men to attend the World Day of Prayer Services in the Fredericton area. The World Day of Prayer for 2025 was prepared by the Women of the Cook Island. The theme is "I Made You Wonderful" (Psalm 139: 1-18.)

**Northside:** The World Day of Prayer will be held at St. Mary's and All Saints Anglican Church, 780 McEvoy Street, Fredericton on Friday, **March 7<sup>th</sup>**, 2025 at 2:00 PM. Storm Date: Sunday, March 9 at 3:00 PM.

**Southside:** The World Day of Prayer will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian and St. Paul's United Church, 512 Charlotte Street, Fredericton on Sunday, **March 9<sup>th</sup>**, 2025 at 2:00 PM. Storm Date: March 16 at 2:00 PM.

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**February 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Patty Trail & Cathy Davis

**February 16<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Debbie Allison, Barb McGuigan & Lois Paterson

**February 17<sup>th</sup>** ~ **Offices Closed for Family Day Stat Holiday**

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Marg Leonard

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** ~ Ash Wednesday Service

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ Daylight Savings Time Begins

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ *Fellowship Hosts Needed!*

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ World Day of Prayer Service at St. Andrew's at 2pm

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Heather Labadie

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Chris Grant & Mary Stickles

### CONNECTING WITH REV. MICHELLE

Rev. Michelle can be reached on the main office phone lines, her office directly at 506-455-0639, by text or call to her cell at 506-259-7602 or via email at [michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com](mailto:michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com). Drop-in office hours are available Sundays between 1-2:30pm and Mondays from 1-2:30pm. Appointments are preferred to ensure the time you need to connect.

### BULLETIN & ENEWS SUBMISSIONS

Please send announcements to Meghan at [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com) by noon Wednesday.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **St. Andrew's Presbyterian & St. Paul's United**

512 Charlotte Street, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 1M2

**Saint Andrew's:** Tel: 506.455.8220 | Email: [sapcfred@gmail.com](mailto:sapcfred@gmail.com) | Website: <https://sapc.ca/>

**Office Administrator:** Joanna Price | Office Hours: Monday-Friday 2pm-6pm

**St. Paul's:** Tel: 506.458.1183 | E-mail: [stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com) | Website: [www.stpaulsunityed.ca](http://www.stpaulsunityed.ca)

**Office Administrator/Bookkeeper:** Meghan Roebuck | Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-3pm

**Minister:** Rev. Michelle Armstrong | **Organist:** Dr. Sharon Pond

**Custodian:** Doug Newman | **Ministers Emeriti:** Rev. Doug Blaikie & Rev. Dr. Basil Lowery