

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

Fredericton, N.B.

March 16th, 2025

Lent 2

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: *Liebster Jesus, Wir Sind Hier*

~ Fey

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: *Take, O Take Me As I Am*

MV 85

*Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me. R*

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)* ¹

The Word made flesh is among us – listen to him.

The Word is enfleshed in us as we seek to be His hands and feet.

The Living God has a story of eternal life – listen to him.

We come looking for our part in that ongoing story.

In our scripture and community, we seek the living God who gives us life and purpose.

Let us gather, now is the time to give thanks and worship.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: *Today We Are Called To Be Disciples*

VU 507

*Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make ploughshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.*

*God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
we sow not peace but strife,
our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.*

*Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.*

*May we in service to our God
act out the living Word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)* ²

God of compassion,
we confess that sometimes the world seems too much.
and we feel we do not have enough to give.
We shrink from costly discipleship and put our own interests first.
Forgive our fleeting commitment
and the times when we indulge our own interests over care for our neighbours.
When we shut you out by turning our back on the needs of this world,
forgive us and have mercy on us.
Inspire us with the energy to do your will
and serve our neighbours in the example of Christ, your Son and our Lord.
Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

STORY TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: *(In Unison)* ²

God of wisdom, your Word brings light to show us the way you would have us follow. As the Scriptures are read and proclaimed this day, send us your Holy Spirit to aid our understanding and guide us in the ways we live your truth and love. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 15

O, Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right

and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue

and do no evil to their friends

nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised

but who honor those who fear the Lord;

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest

and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

FOCAL SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 10:25-42

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: *Who's Goin' to Tell the Story*

~ Sleeth

MESSAGE

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *When I Needed A Neighbour*

VU 600

*When I needed a neighbour, were you there,
Were you there?*

*When I needed a neighbour, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
Were you there?*

*I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
Were you there?*

*I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
Were you there?*

*I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
Were you there?*

*I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
Were you there?*

*When I needed a healer, were you there?
Were you there?*

*When I needed a healer, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
Were you there?*

*Wherever you travel, I'll be there,
I'll be there,*

*Wherever you travel, I'll be there,
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom God's world rejoices,
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(In Unison)*²

**Living God, we offer our gifts today in hopeful gratitude.
Bless these gifts and use them to increase the goodness enjoyed by those in need.
Bless our lives that, through our relationships,
others will be touched by the hope we know in Christ Jesus
and find their lives blessed by his love and mercy. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE:

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *(In Unison)*

(You are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer in the language of your heart, and the words that ring deep in your soul.)

GOING FORTH WITH GOD

CLOSING HYMN: *Brother, Sister Let Me Serve You*

TBoP 635

*We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.*

*Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.*

*I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.*

*Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSING: *Through These Lenten Days and Nights*

TBoP 196 vs 1

*Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.*

POSTLUDE: *Grand Choeur*

~ Fey

¹ Adapted from BibleWorm Liturgy March 9, 2025;

² Adapted from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, Worship Planner, March 16, 2025

Thank you to our Volunteers today!

Scripture Readers: Psalm Leader & Jesus - Jean Boudreau; Narrator & Martha - Jane Banks; Lawyer - Kim Keech

Greeters: Carol Peacock & Jean and Al 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 OFFICE IS CLOSED while Meghan is on vacation, and will reopen on Thursday, March 20th at 8am. Until then, please contact Joanna (506-455-8220), Monday-Friday from 2-6pm or via email at sapcfred@gmail.com or Rev. Michelle at michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com or 506-259-7602 for emergencies or concerns.

CAN YOU HELP?

Rev. Michelle was contacted by The Rev. Joseph Reed earlier this month. Rev. Joe has been a minister in Montreal, a missionary in Nicaragua for over 20 years, and was moderator of the 127th General Assembly. He has been partnering with the Fredericton YMCA to help get a Nicaraguan YMCA worker out of the country and claim refugee status in Canada. I had a meeting at the YMCA this week and met Marvin. There are a few items that we are trying to get for him. If you happen to have any of the following items to donate, contact Rev. Michelle: used cell phone that can be activated on a network, clothing items especially pants size 33-32 but also shirts size large, winter boots men's size 8.5-9, slippers for indoors men's size 8.5-9, fridge (doesn't have to be full size).

ST. PAUL'S PANTRY PROGRAM

For March, the Pantry will focus on white sugar and dish soap. Other items needed: icing sugar; cream corn; tomatoes; jam; mayo; vinegar (1 L); cookies; Ritz crackers and coffee. Thank you for your ongoing and generous support!



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

March 23rd ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Chris Grant & Mary Stickle

March 30th ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by the Mission Committee

“SPRING WITH AN IRISH TWIST” - This Sunday afternoon, The Lintuhtine Singers present a fun, fun, fun concert at the Hazen Centre in Oromocto at 3 pm. Special Guests: Sidney Murgatroyd (Strings), Andrew Somerville (guitar, vocals), and Sparra (Dance troupe), directed by Helen Mórág McKinnon, and accompanied by Lynn Mills and Conrad Levesque. Monetary (\$) donation at the door to cover concert & needed outreach costs.

SAVING WALDEN’S WORLD - A FILM ABOUT LOCAL RESILIENCE

You are invited on Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 pm in Edmund Casey Hall, St. Thomas University, to a free screening of the award-winning documentary "Saving Walden's World", a powerful exploration of how communities around the globe are achieving sustainable development through women's empowerment, education, and innovative social programs. Winner of 11 international film festival awards, this documentary takes us on a journey through Kerala, Cuba, and Slovenia, revealing how these societies have transformed. Q & A to follow the screening. Register here for your free ticket: <https://events.humanitix.com/saving-walden-s-world-a-film-about-local-resilience-by-belfast-resident-jim-merkel>

Jim Merkel is a filmmaker, engineer and activist. *Saving Walden’s World* grew out of his book *Radical Simplicity: Small Footprints on a Finite Earth* and the Jan Cannon film *radically simple*. He lives in Belfast, Maine with his son Walden and partner Susan Cutting. They are dedicated to a sustainable lifestyle.

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*

CONNECTING WITH REV. MICHELLE

Rev. Michelle can be reached at either church office number, on at her direct office line (506-455-0639) and by text or call to her cell: 506-259-7602, or email michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com. Drop-in office hours are 1-2:30pm. on Sundays and Mondays. Booking an appointment is preferred to ensure you have the time you need to connect.

BULLETIN & ENEWS SUBMISSIONS

Please send announcements to Meghan at stpauloffice224@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 | 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 | Website: www.stpaulsunited.ca

Office Administrator/Bookkeeper: Meghan Roebuck | Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-3pm & Friday 8am-12pm

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

Ministers Emeriti: Rev. Doug Blaikie & Rev. Dr. Basil Lowery

Custodian: Doug Newman