

# St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. December 14th, 2014

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

The people of St. Paul's United Church welcome you.

May there be a blessing for you in this house today.

\* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer \*

**Prelude:** (Iris Kim) The Holy Boy

Ireland

## \*Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,  
**and also with you.**

## Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

The Grant Family

*(as the first candle is lit)*

On the first Sunday of Advent we lit a candle for Hope.

*(as the second candle is lit)*

Our second candle was lit for Peace.

*(as the third candle is lit)*

Today we light a candle for joy. This is the Joy we search for:

**the Joy that comes when we go out of our way to help others, the Joy that overcomes fear and repression, the Joy that Jesus brought to the downtrodden and despised,**

the Joy that chuckles out from a young baby, the Joy that is in the energy of a street-hockey game, the Joy that comes with a new job and is found in a purposeful retirement,

**the Joy of compassionate friendship, the Joy of a Christian faith that is central to all we do and are,**

a Joy to release us,

**a Joy to delight us,**

a Joy to encourage us,

**a Joy to challenge the despair in our hearts, in our city, and among the hopeless of the world. AMEN**

## Introit

"Hope is a Star"

VU 7 (vs 3)

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,**

**Telling the world that the saviour is born.**

**When God is a child, there's joy in our song.**

**The last shall be first and the week shall be strong,**

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**Keep up to date on upcoming activities and stay in touch in between Sundays!**

[http://www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsUnitedFredericton)

**StPaulsUnitedFredericton**



Minister: Rev. Richard Bowley rev.bowley@outlook.com

Pastoral Care: Rev. Bob Jones 476-8020

Organist & Director of Music: Alexis Ervin aervin17@gmail.com

Choir Accompanist: Iris Kim

Sexton: Joe Robicheau robicheaujoseph@rogers.com

Office Administrator: Cathy Simpson cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

## Regular Weekly Activities

**Monday-Friday** 11:30–1 p.m. AA - Youth Lounge

**Tuesday & Thursday** 12–1 p.m. Exercise Group - Gym

1-4 p.m. Quilting - Quilter's Parlour

**Tuesday & Saturday** 8–9 p.m. AA - Youth Lounge

**Monday** 6:30-8:30 pm ShoeBox Dance - Gym

7 p.m. Men's Study—Ladies Parlour

**Tuesday (will resume in January)** Ladies Bible Study - Parlour

6:30-8 p.m. Beavers & Cubs - Gym

**Wednesday** 9-11 a.m. The Pantry

10 a.m. Wed. AM Discussion

**Thursday** 7 p.m. Ball Hockey—Gym

7 p.m. Senior Choir - Hall

### Wednesdays in Advent -Early Morning Devotion LoveYoga

Dec. 3 – Dec. 24, 7 – 7:45 a.m. Led by Barbara Cull-Wilby 455-0877 Information hand out sheets have been placed in the Hall and on the Bulletin Board.



**Observer renewals:** Anyone interested in ordering the Observer should let Cathy Simpson in the office know by Dec. 21 by calling 458-1183. Special cost for the year is \$10 (normally \$20)

Our **Brown Bag Program** is in need of everything. If you are able to help out please drop items off at the church office. Chicken/Tuna paks, beans, small hotdogs, Chef Boyardee (flip top cans please), juice, snacks, puddings, etc. Thanks - Maude.

**Sermons are now available online!** From now on, the message from each week will be posted to the St Paul's United Church website. You can find them by going to the website and clicking **Podcast** in the navigation bar, or by going to the following address: <http://www.stpaulsunited.ca/podcast.php>

**Can you help the nursery?** Currently we have a very small volunteer base for the nursery which means they don't get to participate in the wider worship on Sunday mornings. If we spread the load and rotate, it might only take a Sunday a month on your part, but it can make a big difference to the kids and to the volunteers.

Everyone is invited to **Greenwood Drive Baptist Church**, 150 Greenwood Drive on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 6:30 p.m., for the presentation of the Christmas Cantata "We're Glad You Came" by Faith Baptist Church choir. A dessert social will follow. (Freewill offering will be taken).

*And none shall be afraid!*

### Welcome and Announcements Opening Prayer

\*Hymn                      Come Thou Long Expected Jesus                      VU 2

### Prayer of Reconciliation (*Unison*)

*God of light and love, we confess that we have not been people who are quick to pray. When an emergency befalls us, we turn to pleas and prayers which usually begin with the heart-wrenching cry, "Why?". Help us to remember that you are always ready to hear and respond to all our prayers. Remind us that even though we have often failed to witness to your love and live as people of compassion and faith, you love us unconditionally. Forgive our stubbornness and willfulness. Cleanse our souls and spirits and make us truly ready to receive your light. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN*

### Assurance of God's Love

The Lord's Prayer                      VU 959  
Time For All Ages  
Gift of Music      Star of Advent                      Choplin

### Prayers of the People

Moment for Community                      Property - Greg Morton

\*Hymn                      It's a Song of Praise to The Maker                      MV 30

Offertory                      Go Tell It On The Mountain                      arr. Curtis

\*Dedication Verse                      VU 55(vs 4)

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.*

\*Dedication Prayer (*Unison*)

**May our gifts this day of money, time, and ourselves be blessed to your Holy use O God. Use them to bring comfort to those who have none, and use us as your hands and feet in this world, bringing hope, peace and joy to all. AMEN**

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**Scriptures**      1 Thessalonians 5:16-24      Marilyn Brewer  
                          Luke 1:39-56      Rev. Richard Bowley

**Anthem**      Morning of Promise      Martin

**Message**

**\*Hymn**      Joy to The World      VU 59

**\*Commissioning (Responsive)**

We go from this place of worship into a world in need of service,  
***We bring the Hope we have found here to a world that needs much, Peace to a world seeking relief, and Joy to all seeking Good News.***

**\*Benediction**

~~\*Choral Closing~~ I Am Walking a Path of Joy (X2)      MV 221  
***I am walking a path of Joy, I am walking a path of Joy,  
 I am walking a path of Joy, lead me home, lead me home.***

**Postlude**      Two Bohemian Carols      arr. Price

*We invite you to please stay and enjoy the Postlude*

**Greeters:**      Lois Walker  
**Coffee Hour Dec. 21:**      Lois Walker & Maude McNamara

A warm welcome is extended to all who are with us this morning. Please join us for conversation and refreshments in Fraser Memorial Hall following the service.

Sympathy and prayers of the congregation are extended to Mel and Barb McGuigan and their family in the death of their son Jeff. Service will be held here at 2 p.m. this afternoon, fellowship will follow in the Hall.

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**Financial Contributions for December 7, 2014**

2014 Weekly Budget		\$5,700.00
Envelopes	3,942.25	
Loose	53.55	
PAR	<u>1,810.85</u>	
	5,806.65	



***Thank you and may God truly bless and multiply your gifts***

2014 (12 months) offering budget	\$240,000
<del>Received to December 7, 2014</del>	<del>\$205,845</del>

**Sunday School Bake Sale—Cookies & Muffins** following today's service in the Hall during Coffee Hour. Please come and support their efforts.

**Children's Offering Envelopes** are available in the Narthex—Bright Yellow "***I feel good when I thank God***" (remember to include your name and envelope #). This money goes to the Sunday School budget allowing them to purchase curriculum, supplies, etc. **This is a positive tool to teach your children about supporting their church and learning the importance of stewardship.** Collection is received at Sunday School each Sunday.

***December Worship Services***

**Sunday, Dec. 14:** 3rd Sunday of Advent—Children's Bake Sale  
**Sunday, Dec. 21:** 4th Sunday of Advent  
 10:30 a.m.      Worship and Holy Communion  
                          Sunday School Pageant  
 7:00 p.m.      Longest Night service at St. Paul's United  
                          with Leadership provided by Rev. Ellen  
                          Bearisto and Rev. Richard Bowley

***Christmas Eve Services***

7:00 p.m.      Family Service  
 11:00 p.m.      Holy Communion  
**Sunday, Dec. 28:**  
 11:00 a.m.      Joint Worship at Wilmot United Church