

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

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

October 6th, 2024

20th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

*Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."
And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ~ Luke 23:34*

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Rhosymedre ~ Williams

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

VU 400

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*¹

God's way is not always easy to see,

so we come from many places to expand our perspective and broaden our hope.

God's guidance is not always easy to trust,

so we join our different journeys together to see the bigger picture.

God's call is not always easy to hear,

so we come to listen again, seeking in worship to discover and live a faithful life.

We gather, because even when the way of faith is hard,

God's love holds us close and sets us free.

HYMN: *Come and Find the Quiet Centre*

VU 374

*Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.*

*Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,*

*making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.*

*In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!*

OPENING PRAYER

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

SEEKING GOD'S WORD

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 32:1-14

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Sing a New Song to the Lord ~ Sleeth

MESSAGE

RESPONDING WITH PRAISE

HYMN: *God of the Bible*

MV 28

*God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our center, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.*

Refrain:

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.*

*God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
suffering with us, taking our part,
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.*

*Those without status, those who are nothing,
you have made royal, gifted with rights,
chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
birthing new systems, lighting new lights.*

*Not by your finger, not by your anger
will our world order change in a day,
but by your people, fearless and faithful,
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.*

*Hope we must carry, shining and certain
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
bonding us gladly one to the other,
'til our world changes facing the Cross.*

INVITATION TO TIME OF OFFERING

DEDICATION VERSE: *As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought*

VU 518 vs 1

*As those of old their first-fruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield;
so we today our first-fruits bring:
the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(In Unison)*

God of all goodness and grace, all we have is from you. As we return a portion of what we have received back to you in gratitude, we pray that you bless these offerings so that they may be deployed to spread your love and mercy in ways we can not yet imagine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY

HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

VU 266

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC: *As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought*

VU 518 vs 2

*A world in need now summons us
to labour, love, and give,
to make our life an offering
to God, that all may live.
The church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,
all life in Christ made new.*

POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Amazing Grace" ~ Pardini

¹ Adapted from Rev. Teri Paterson, *BibleWorm Liturgy*, October 6, 2024

Scripture Readers: Narrator – Cathy Davis, Aaron – Greg Morton, Lord – Brad Webb, Moses – Andrew Steeves

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.



PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry has moved over to St. Andrew's and is kindly accepting donations again. Folks wanting to donate items are asked to leave them in the box in the narthex on Sunday or deliver to St. Andrew's during regular office hours. If you prefer, you can make a drop off time appointment with Meghan during office hours through email to stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com or by phone 506-458-1183. Items needed this week are macaroni, white sugar, flour, rice, canned chicken, salmon, orange juice, relish, vinegar, pancake mix, Corn Flakes, cookies, canned fruit, Shake'n' Bake, paper towel, Mr. Clean, dish & laundry soap, hand soap, waxed paper, plastic wrap, and tin foil. Thank you for your continued support of this increasingly busy outreach program! Thank you for your continued support of this increasingly busy outreach program!

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.

WORSHIP & PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Michelle will be away at the Moderators Re:generate Leadership Program from October 6th-11th. During this time Rev. Richard Bowley will be covering emergency pastoral care his number is 506-262-2150

FUNDSCRIP

Fall has officially arrived and that nip in the air these days is enough to remind us of all the seasonal chores we should be doing... picking up new filters for the furnace or the humidifier, planting spring bulbs to bloom next year, maybe you need new winter tires, or the kids need new boots... it is a busy time! FundScrip gift cards can help you with all your shopping needs while the retailers where you shop make a donation to the church. That's how FundScrip works! Each purchase automatically includes a donation to St. Paul's calculated as a percentage of the card's value. **There is no cost to you for this donation.** You receive the full face value of every card you purchase. The deadline for our next order is **Sunday, October 6th**. As usual, order forms are available in the office and the Narthex or print your own by clicking here (Meghan, please insert link). Cards will be available the following Sunday. Once we settle in at St. Andrew's, we'll figure out more order dates. In the meantime, it's not too early to start thinking about your Christmas gift card list!



OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY OCTOBER 14TH

The office will be closed on Monday October 14th for the Thanksgiving Stat holiday.

FAREWELL FELLOWSHIP, OCTOBER 13TH

We've heard it said that St. Paul's is the eating-est church in town! Let's live up to that reputation one more time! On Sunday, **October 13th**, we will have a reception following our final worship service here. We don't want to leave all the work to the few people who have catered these events in the past so we're making it a Potluck and asking everyone to pitch in!

We're looking for sandwiches... please bring a serving plate of whatever variety you like... egg, chicken, ham, salmon, white bread or whole wheat... you decide!

If you would rather bake something or pick up your favourite sweet at the bakery or grocery store, that will be fine, too. We'll welcome whatever you choose... cookies, a pan of brownies, slices of lemon or banana bread... a serving plate of something sweet.

Please cover your sandwiches with plastic wrap to keep them fresh and put them in the kitchen refrigerator when you arrive for the service. Sweets should be covered but can be left on the kitchen counter.

A few helpful souls will set out the food after the service and tend to the tea and coffee. And just to be sure no one has to stay to do the dishes afterwards, we'll have seasonal napkins and paper plates available.

Please note: There is no need to contact anyone to say you're attending or what you will bring. It will be a true Potluck! Just show up. We'll enjoy whatever we get. If we have too much, we'll share our good fortune with residents of Grace House, the women's shelter on Brunswick Street.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

October 6th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship hosted by Ann Raper & Joan Crowther

October 8th ~ Office moves to St. Andrew's

October 13th ~ Thanksgiving Sunday & Communion Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Potluck hosted by Carole Peacock

October 14th ~ Office Closed for Thanksgiving Stat Holiday

TAKE-OUT SALMON SUPPER

New Maryland United Church is hosting a Take-Out Salmon Supper at the New Maryland Centre (754 New Maryland Hwy.) on Sunday, October 20th, 2024. Pick up times are: 4:00, 4:30, 5:00 or 5:30pm. Cost is \$20. Menu: BBQ Salmon, baked potato, peas, carrots, rolls, and apple crisp. Advance tickets only by calling (506) 459-3313 or (506) 455-1948.

THE MODERATOR IS COMING TO NEW BRUNSWICK

Mark your calendars because The Right Reverend Carmen Lansdown our current moderator will be hosting an event in Moncton on November 9th. More information to come.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Church Administrator: Meghan Roebuck