

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

Fredericton, N.B.

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Transfiguration Sunday

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:** Jesu, Joy of Men's Desiring

~ Bach

**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)*<sup>1</sup>

Come away and look — turn your attention  
past the chaos of this world, and all that wears you down.

**We come to get a glimpse of the Holy, shining showing us a new way.**

Come in and look — turn your attention  
past the constant call to competition and all that overwhelms you.

**Here we see the people Jesus has put right in front of us,  
fellow travellers and helpful guides.**

Come to worship and look —

**Amazed and encouraged,  
our perspective is changed as we offer praise and prayer.**

## OUR APPROACH TO GOD

**OPENING PRAYER**

**HYMN:** *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*

TBoP 187

*We have come at Christ's own bidding  
to this high and holy place,  
where we wait with hope and longing  
for some token of God's grace.  
Here we pray for new assurance  
that our faith is not in vain,  
searching like those first disciples  
for a sign both clear and plain.*

*Light breaks in upon our darkness;  
splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word;*

*Moses and Elijah marvel  
as the heavenly voice is heard.  
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder  
how the law and prophets meet:  
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,  
stands transfigured and complete.*

*Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
fearful lest our faith decline,  
we like Peter find it tempting  
to remain and build a shrine,  
but true worship gives us courage  
to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
people of the God we bless.*

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Responsive)* <sup>2</sup>

You overwhelm our senses, O God,  
with light and love, with power and glory, with vision and truth.  
We so often see only dimly,  
clouded or dreamlike and uncertain,  
weighed down and slow to recognize and respond.

**We confess that we heard you tell us who you were,  
and we heard you tell us who we are,  
but we haven't decided if we believe both truths yet or not.**

You have given us enormous power,  
**and we confess we have mostly ignored that part of the story,  
believing instead that we can't do anything about the giant problems of the world.  
We are too small, and they are too much for us.**

Forgive us when we have allowed evil spirits to flourish,  
because we were too afraid to confront them.

**Forgive us when we have simply waited for you to intervene,  
because we weren't sure exactly the right words to say and so we said nothing.**

Forgive us when we have looked away,  
because we couldn't fix everything at once, so we pretended not to see.

**Forgive us, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the times the world has looked to us to reveal your presence, power, and purpose,  
and we have shrunk back to our narrow ways and comfort zones instead.**

Fill us once again with your Spirit,  
and send us out empowered to bear your healing presence  
to this world so desperate for good news.

**Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON** <sup>3</sup>

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

## **THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

### **THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:** *(In Unison)* <sup>4</sup>

God of all wisdom and truth,  
we seek your guidance as we hear the Scriptures read and interpreted today.  
Send your Holy Spirit to open our minds and hearts, to give us fresh understanding,  
and a renewed commitment to follow your Word. Amen

**RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 36:5-10

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;  
your judgments are like the great deep;  
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

**FOCAL READING:** Luke 9:28-45

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** Come Down Lord

~ Bethel

**MESSAGE**

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE:** *Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining*

TBoP 376

*Lord, the light of your love is shining  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.  
Set us free by the truth you bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me.*

**Refrain:**

*Shine, Jesus shine;  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our heart on fire.*

*Flow, river flow;  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!*

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by your blood I may enter your brightness.  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me. R*

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory:  
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me. R*

#### **INVITATION TO OFFERING <sup>4</sup>**

#### **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>2</sup>**

**Transformational God, you work in us and through us. May the offerings we present today, and those given by PAR, shine forth our love for you and be a token of our desire to be your body of light in this world. Pour out your blessings on these offerings, our financial gifts and our lives, so empowered they will extend your grace into the world. Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison) <sup>1</sup>**

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

### **WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY**

#### **HYMN: Go to the World**

**VU 420**

*Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*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!*

*Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!'  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

#### **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.*

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Teri Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy, March 2, 2025

<sup>2</sup> Teri Peterson, BibleWorm Liturgy, March 2, 2025

<sup>3</sup> Adapted from The Presbyterian Church in Canada, Worship Planner, March 2, 2025

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

**Thank you to our Volunteers today!**

**Scripture Readers:** Psalm Leader, God & Jesus – Magenta Watson, Narrator – Cathy Davis, Peter & Man – Tony Watson

**Greeters:** Andrew Steeves & Margie Penney

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

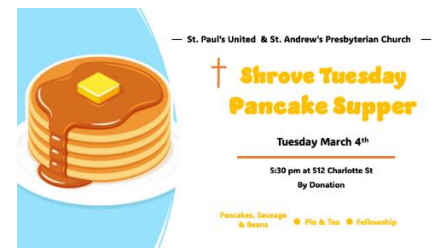
**GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO EVERYONE!** May this worship service be a blessing in your day as we continue to worship together each week in person and by Zoom. Can't make it in person, join via **Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673756287> Passcode: 2023 View anytime on **YouTube** here: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.paulsunitedchurch984/videos>

**ESM WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Ecumenical Shared Ministry Worship Committee is our first fully integrated committee! We are looking for more people to join this dynamic group, especially if you are Presbyterian, as currently we are weighted towards the United Church. Take a moment to ask God if this is where you are being called to help your church. If so, reach out to Mary Charters or Roger Miller. Next Meeting is Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:15am.

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper by St. Paul's and Saint Andrew's in the hall at 512 Charlotte St on **March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30 pm. Menu: pancakes, sausage, baked beans, tea, coffee, and dessert. Spaces are limited. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please reach out to Beth or Shawn Meister for more information.



**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

On March 5th we mark the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday. Our reflective service will take place at 5:30 pm in the sanctuary. Grounding ourselves and setting our intentions for the next 40 days kick-off this season right with worship and prayer!

**SAPC COMMITTEE REPORTS DUE ASAP!**

It's that time of the year again! All SAPC committee chairs need to submit their 2024 annual reports to the office asap. Many thanks, Joanna.

**ST. PAUL'S PANTRY PROGRAM**



The Pantry will focus on white sugar and dish soap in March. Other items needed are macaroni, spaghetti, jello, tomatoes, white rice, flour, mayo, vinegar, salt, pancake mix, 1L orange juice, plastic wrap, tin foil, laundry soap, syrup, and ketchup. Thank you for your ongoing support!

**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.

## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

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

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** ~ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 5:30pm

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** ~ Ash Wednesday Service at 5:30pm

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

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by Debbie West

**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

**March 30<sup>th</sup>** ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hosted by the Mission Committee

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES

An invitation is extended to all Women and Men to attend the World Day of Prayer Services in Fredericton. 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:** St. Mary's 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:** St. Andrew's Presbyterian & 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.

## 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

## 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 & 8am-12pm

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

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