



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
April 23, 2017

*Through Faith, we walk on the path Jesus set for us.
The people of St. Paul's Belong... Believe... Listen... Love... Lead.*

WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks (verses 2, 4) #179 Voices United
LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the Day That God has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

In this season of Resurrection,

we gather to worship, to sing hallelujah, to celebrate the victory of Life.

In this season of new life and hope,

we gather to hear God's call to risk sharing the Good News of resurrection.

As our time of worship begins, we greet our neighbours in the name of the Risen Christ

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

In this Season of new growth, new life, new hope,

We light a candle to remind us of the Light which could not be put out, the light that shines from the Empty Tomb.

As God's Light shines in our midst we center ourselves for worship.

OPENING PRAYER

God of Easter,

we gather in this season of celebration.

God of Life,

we praise you for the signs of new life we see bursting forth around us

God of Hope,

we look around for signs of the Kingdom, those things that bring hope to our lives.

God active in our world,

in this time of worship renew us, remind us that we are agents of your love and hope, send us out to carry your promises to the world around us.

We pray in the name of the Risen Christ, who taught his friends to pray by saying together...

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn: Come Children Join to Sing

#345 Voices United

Offering Envelopes - Making your donation using a set of offering envelopes is the easiest way to ensure you receive a tax receipt for your givings. If you don't have a set of offering envelopes, and would like some, please contact Carla in the church office. Also please make sure you have envelope # on your givings so it can be record to the correct person.

JUST A REMINDER...



For those parents with small children, please be reminded there is a nursery available when your children need more room to run around, or are upset and inconsolable. The nursery is conveniently just down the hall across from the Friendship Room.

Parents – If your children are using the nursery, please tidy it up before leaving.

Moved?? New to the Church??

If you have moved, or you are new to the Church, please stop by the church office or send Carla a quick email (secretary@stpaulsuc.ca) with your new details so we can keep our records up to date! Thank you!

New to the church? Want a photo directory? See Carla in the church office to buy your copy for \$15.00

ATTENTION ALL HOUSEHOLDS

Have you joined St. Paul's Recyclable program yet?

St. Paul's has an easy fund raiser to help with the Church renovations. All you need to do is bag up all your empty bottles, cans and milk jugs and put our **church id # 1468-2415** visible on each bag and drop them off at the bottle depot on Resources Road and before you leave, check in with the cashier and let them know how many bags/boxes on bottles/can you dropped off.

WE SHARE AS GOD'S CHILDREN THE BIBLE'S STORY IN WORD AND IN SONG:

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God who calls us to be God's people,

we offer words of thanks for Your Mercy, for Your Grace, for Your Life.

God who calls us to live in community,

help us, we pray, to learn how best to be a supportive community.

God who calls us to share a vision for the world,

help us, we pray, to share that vision in our words and actions.

God who knows that we sometimes struggle with life,

help us, we pray, to work through our struggles and our mis-steps. Draw us back to the place where we stand on the sure foundation, where we can feel the cornerstone, the touchstone, the keystone of our lives.

God who gives us a living cornerstone, a living foundation, a sure base on which to build our lives, You support us in our struggles, You strengthen us in our weakness, You push us to make a better community.

And so we offer words of thanks for Your Mercy, for Your Grace, for Your Life. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Acts 6:8-7:2a; 7:54-8:3

SILENCE

(trusting that God is at work in our midst we allow the words we have heard to settle and stir in our souls)

SERMON *Witness and Reaction*

Hymn: Now the Green Blade Rises

#186 Voices United

WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD AND PREPARE FOR MINISTRY IN THE

WORLD

THE OFFERING

Mission Minute:

The Invitation:

Dedication Offering Hymn: Christ Has No Body Now But Yours #171 More Voices

(refrain, verse 4, refrain)

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn: We Meet You O Christ

#183 Voices United

COMMISSIONING:

As a people who are called to live in community,

we go out to support our neighbours, friends and strangers, that all may live in abundance.

As people who live in turbulent times,

we go out trusting in our living corner stone, a solid foundation on which we stand.

As those who have been called and claimed as God's people,

we go out to look for God in the world, and to reveal God in the world.

Go with God: the Creator, the Teacher, the Sustainer; the Parent, the Child, the Spirit.

The One-in-Three who is with us always. Amen.

Sung Benediction: God Says

(verses 1, 3, 4) #172 More Voices

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Ministry by: The Congregation

Enabling Minister: Rev. Gord Waldie Church Office: Carla Johnson

Telephone: (780-532-2415) Email: secretary@stpaulsuc.ca

Sunday School: Holly Loughead

Youth Ministry: Janis Schau-Steinke

Music Director: Alison White.

If you have a prayer request, please write it down in our prayer book on the table at the entrance into worship. Your needs will be added to our community prayer.

Thank you

If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation, please contact them by phone or visit them in person. You may be their "angel"

**We are grateful to our many volunteers that assist us with worship
Sunday mornings.**

This week we thank:

Greeters/Ushers:

Candle lighter:

Scripture Reader: Lorena Ramsankar

Coffee: Brenda Stouffer

Church Office Hours!

Our Office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm

*the Office is closed during the lunch hour.

Would you like to put an announcement in the Sunday bulletin? Please have them to Carla in the Church office by **Wednesday at noon** in order to have them in for the current week's bulletin.

April

This month we would like to make sure we recognize and celebrate the following people having birthdays this month.....

7th - Nora Hassall, 7th - Jacob Middleton, 8th - Dennis MacIntosh
8th - Melissa Evans, 16th - Margaret Bowes

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Line Dancing in the Basement Each Friday**
Parking lot door open 6:30 - dancing 7-9 pm - cost \$5.00
- **Property & Maintenance** breakfast / work meeting Saturday, May 6th at 8:00 a.m.
- **Vacation Bible School**
July 10-14
9am-12pm (more info to follow)
To volunteer, please contact Holly at 780-933-9937

Did know that 2017 is the 55th Anniversary of the United Church Women?

To acknowledge and celebrate, our St. Paul's UCW is planning a quilt show, historical display and tea on Saturday, April 29th from 2-4 PM.

We invite you to enter quilts for display along with a brief 'story' to accompany your treasures.

Please bring your quilts to the church on **Sunday, April 23rd** or during **office hours April 24th or April 25st** with their information attached.

In addition, you may deliver your quilts to the church on **Tuesday evening (April 25th)** between 6 and 8 PM.

If you need further information, please contact Alice Lorenz at 780-532-4004 or Linda Wagner at 780-532-9759

The University of Alberta Mixed Chorus and Faculty of Education Handbell choir is coming to Hythe, May 2nd, 7:00 p.m. at the Hythe Regional School. Admission is by donation at the door.

The Hythe Community Choir's Annual Supper and Concert is May 5th and 6th, at the Hythe Community Centre. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$35.00 each, purchased in advance, from Jeannette (780) 356-2866, or from Around the Block in Beaverlodge. *An Evening at the Ritz*. Audience is invited to dress up in your favourite fancy clothes (any era).

Mayors interfaith Breakfast

When: May 12, 2017 with doors opening at 7:30 am

Where: Teresa Sargent Hall

Cost: \$25 per ticket and can be purchased at Revolution Place or online

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ingrid Mattson

Trinity Lutheran Church ladies have invited the ladies of the United Church to a "Garden Party" for food, fun and fellowship for their annual spring tea on May 13 @ 10:00 am RSVP to Dorothy (9:00 – 1:00 pm) 780-532-4978

The first Sunday of each month there is a second offering that is dedicated to local outreach. **This month from March 1-31 we gave out 6 food/ gas vouchers for a total of \$425.00 from** our local outreach fund. The food bank is experiencing a shortage; consider bringing a non-perishable food donation. Thank you for your continued support!

We are in need of Scripture Readers and Door Greeters every Sunday. Please sign the lists in the foyer if you would like to volunteer to help during the worship services.

Labyrinth Walks

Please join us for meditation

an inward journey on a sacred path.. 7:00 pm

April 30 and May 28.

Would anyone be interested in a Sunday morning Walk before Sunday worship services? Please contact Marge Riley or the Church office.

At St. Paul's We Are So Fortunate To Have A Church That Is Busy And Full Of Life PLEASE Be Sure To Check with Carla In The Church Office Before You Expect A Room Will Be Free For Your Use. Rooms Booked With Carla In The Office Will Have First Priority.