



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

March 11, 2018

*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 In You There Is a Refuge #84 More Voices

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we journey through Lent, as we move towards the darkness of the cross, we light a candle to remind us of the Light that can not be put out.

May its light remind us that we are not alone, in the good and the bad of life, we are not alone.

As the candle flickers and moves into a steady glow we quiet our hearts for worship.

OPENING PRAYER A pilgrim prayer

**There is no place where God is not. Wherever we go, God is there already.
Now and always he upholds us with his strength, and keeps us safe in his love.
Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn: Come All You People 3X # 2 More Voices

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR GRACE **God, we are sorry for the times we have forgotten your presence in our lives, for the times we have looked to our own needs first. We look back on times when we took more than we needed, and neglected to share with others, Lord, and we feel empty now. That was not the way of Your abundance. Forgive us, Lord, and teach us a better way to live with each other.
Amen**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE adapted from James 4:8

We come near to God, and he comes near to us. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

HEBREW SCRIPTURES: Numbers 21: 4-9 Look up and be saved

CHRISTIAN LETTERS: Ephesians 2: 1-10 God raises us up

CHRISTIAN GOSPELS: Luke 15: 1-10 God doesn't give up on us

SILENT REFLECTION

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

SERMON His Little Sister

Hymn: There's a Spirit in the Air

582 Voices United

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

THE OFFERING

Mission Minute

The Invitation:

Dedication Offering Hymn: The Church of Christ is Every Age
#601 Voices United –Verse 5 THEN Verse 3

Dedication Prayer: by Albert Schweitzer

Here Lord is my life. I place it on the altar today. Use it as You will. Amen

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn: May the God of Hope Go with Us

424 Voices United

COMMISSIONING: adapted from Paul's letter to the Romans:

For we are persuaded that neither death, nor life, neither angels, nor powers of heaven and earth, neither things present nor things yet to come, neither height, nor depth, nor any other thing in all creation, shall be able to keep us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus. Amen

Sung Benediction: Let My Spirit Always Sing

Verses 1&4

#83 More Voices

POSTLUDE

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.

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.

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.

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.

***** \$627.20 has been brought in since January 1, 2017****

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.



Our Prayers are offered for, Allison Blanchard and Family , Art Macklin and Eathyn Anderson and Family

Church Office Hours!

Our Office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm
*the Office is closed during the lunch hour.

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"

Easter will soon be here, and the sanctuary can once again look cheerful and full of flowers. Let's celebrate the resurrection and fill the church with hydrangeas. If you would like to **purchase a potted hydrangea**, UCW we will buy them and have them available for you to take home after the service on April 1st. Please order in advance. The form is in the foyer and a UCW representative will be glad to assist.

St. Paul's Council is seeking a Treasurer and a Member at Large.

If you are interested in please contact Karen Scott or Rev. Gord.

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.

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

The first Sunday of each month there is a second offering that is dedicated to local outreach. **This month from February 1-23 we gave out 8 food/ gas vouchers for a total of \$625.00 from** our local outreach fund. Please consider donating “in good used condition” warm clothing such as mitts, gloves, socks, toques and bath towels for the Saint Lawrence Center. Thank you for your continued support.

EMBRACE YOUR INNER LEPRECHAUN!

Get your tickets for our St. Patrick's Day Dinner - March 17th @ 5:00 pm. Join us for a memorable evening of good Irish FOOD and good Irish FUN, Come see our Blarney Stone!

"Green" Silent auction items are appreciated - if you wondering if your item is "green" you can always check with Sharon Alstad.

Sign up sheets will be up starting February 25th for all those volunteers needed to make something like this a success.

Tickets are \$20 for Adults; \$10 for youth 6-14; and under 6 Free

PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! When locking the church doors please make sure that the door is actually latched. Thank you!

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!

Thursday is “coffee” day! Remember that on Thursday afternoons from 1-4 pm Gord can be found at the West end Starbucks. Join him for a drink and a chat.

Looking Ahead – Save the Date(s)

- **Line Dancing in the Large Basement Friday evenings:**
~~Parking lot door open 6:45 – dancing 7-8:30 pm – cost \$5.00~~
Cancelled March 16th

Labyrinth Walks

*Please join us for meditation
an inward journey on a sacred path.. 7:00 pm*
March 18, April 22, and May 20th

JUBILOS! Bells of Concordia from Concordia University of Edmonton will be featured in Concert **April 7, 7:00 pm at St. Paul's United Church** [10206 - 100 Avenue, Grande Prairie.](https://www.google.com/maps/place/10206+100+Avenue+Grande+Prairie+AB/Twitter)

The theme “Bells from the Silver Screen” features a wide spectrum of music from the Sound of Music, Star Wars, The Mission, Shrek, Lion King, The Muppets and other popular movie standards.

JUBILOS! Bells of Concordia, a sixteen member community-based ensemble, performs on the largest set of handbells and handchimes in Canada and released a CD in 2016. Conductor Debbie Rice is recognized internationally for her work in this unique field. She has served as Executive Director for the International Handbell Committee and as National President for the Handbell Musicians of America, the largest handbell organization worldwide. She travels frequently as a clinician and conductor for international events. In August she conducts the inaugural international handchime festival in Cairns, Australia. In 2019 she leads a handbell tour to Spain.

Tickets are \$20.00 for Adults and \$15.00 for Students. Children 14 and under FREE when accompanied by an adult. Tickets available in advance or at the door. For Advance tickets call (780) 532-2415 (Mon.-Fri. from 9:00-3:00) or Email: secretary@stpaulsuc.ca

Think De-Clutter, Think GARAGE SALE “May 2-5, 2018.”

Book these important days OFF right now!
Tell your friends to tell their friends about the
Amazing St Paul's Garage Sale. Start sorting!