



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**  
**November 19, 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: Open Our Hearts (3X) #21 More Voices

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY LAND

We gather here on land that is covered by Treaty #8, specifically the traditional land of the Beaver in the traditional territory of the Cree.

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

May the Peace of Christ be with you

**And also with you.**

In the hustle and bustle of life we hear a whisper.

**Urging us forward, challenging how we see the world.**

In response to the whisper we gather with the community of faith.

**Listening for the roar of the wind that fills us with the breath of life.**

God has called us together

**Here we seek to understand how God would have us live.**

As we gather for worship we turn to the members of our faith family and greet each other with words and signs of Christ's Peace.

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Psalmist writes: "Thy word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path"

**As this flame shines in our gathering, so may God's Word of hope and love shine in our hearts.**

Guided by God's Light, we center ourselves for worship.

OPENING PRAYER (*Celebrate God's Presence* p.208, adapted)

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator,  
and renew the face of the earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come,**

Come, Holy Spirit, Breath of God,  
give life to the dry bones of this exiled age,

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**Looking Ahead – Save the Date(s)**

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***Labyrinth Walks***

*Please join us for meditation  
an inward journey on a sacred path.. 7:00 pm  
November 19 and December 17<sup>th</sup>*

**TODAY November 19<sup>th</sup>** - immediately following the worship service we will have one of our delicious potluck meals.

**CGIT Vesper Service "Christmas... with Love"**  
**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm**  
**with CGIT and Explorers**

**The Salvation Army kettle campaign** is about to start and is in need of volunteers!! St. Paul's United Church has taken on 2 dates and locations to help with. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you are able to spare a couple hours and volunteer your time.

**Looking for an Alternate way to buy Christmas gifts?** Want to use your Christmas money to help make a change in the world? Check out the United Church's new Gift Catalogue "Gifts With Vision" in the foyer or Find it on-line at <http://www.giftswithvision.ca/>

**The first Sunday of each month** there is a second offering that is dedicated to local outreach. **This month from October 1-31 we gave out 7 food/ gas vouchers for a total of \$500.00 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

**35th annual Festival of Carols!** Two marvellous evenings of local choirs performing Christmas Carols. The concert is free but donations of non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army Food Bank or cash for their kettle campaign are gratefully accepted at the door. 7:30 PM December 4 & 5, at St. Josephs Catholic Church. Experience the joy of Christmas in music and song as you support the less fortunate in the community!

**2018 United Church Calendars** are now available for purchase. You can buy yours from Carla in the church office for \$5.00 but our quantities are limited so don't wait too long!

## 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.

\*\*\* \$478.65 has been brought in since January 1, 2017\*\*\*

### Rising Above Ministry is Hiring

We are looking for an Administrator with Financial Experience. Please email [mel@risingabovegp.com](mailto:mel@risingabovegp.com) for a job description or to submit an application. Resumes will be accepted until suitable candidate is found.

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



### 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.

**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.

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

### **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](mailto:secretary@stpaulsuc.ca)) with your new details so we can keep our records up to date! Thank you!

**Committee chairs**, please empty your mail boxes. They are getting pretty full again.

and make us a living people, holy and free.

### **Come, Holy Spirit, come,**

Come, Holy Spirit, Wisdom and truth:  
strengthen us in the risk of faith.

### **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

We pray in the name of Christ, who calls us to pray saying...

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn: Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#382 Voices United

GIFT OF MUSIC: Chariots, Bones and Wheels

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART - *Dem Bones*

PRAYER FOR AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God of life, you promise us that life is always going to be the winner.

**But we look around us and are moved to doubt the promise. The powers of death seem so strong.**

You call us to come out of the dark tombs of the world and be set free.

**And we have to admit that sometimes the comfort of the familiar overpowers our wish for abundant life.**

You see a valley of dry bones and see possibilities.

**And we see desolation and ask "Can these bones live?"**

For all the times we lose hope, for all the times we doubt the promise, for all the times we prefer the comfort of the tomb to the unknown of new life,

**Forgive and strengthen us, unbind us and call us to live again.**

*...time of silent prayer...*

Christ says: I am the Resurrection and the Life. Those who believe in me will live". Living in Christ we are strengthened, freed and forgiven. We are called to new life, new hope, and new possibilities.

**Thanks be to the God of life! Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ezekiel 37:1-14

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 *Can These Bones Live?*

Hymn: Christ Within Us Hidden

#162 More Voices

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

**THE OFFERING**

Mission Minute

The Invitation:

Dedication Offering Hymn: Come Touch Our Hearts vs. 1 #12 More Voices

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me #575 Voices United

**COMMISSIONING:**

Ezekiel stood in the valley of dry bones

**and saw how God could bring new life.**

Sometimes our churches feel like that valley

**and then the breath of God blows through and brings new life.**

Sometimes our world looks as desolate as sun-bleached skeletons,

**and so we are called to speak God's Word of hope and life.**

As we go into the world,

**May we carry hope, and promise of renewal. May we be agents of Life.**

Sung Benediction: May God's Sheltering Wings (2X) #214 More Voices

**POSTLUDE**

*The gifts of this world will not last past our lifetimes, but God's to us – and our gifts to God – will last through this life and beyond.*



**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.

**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.

# Announcements

**Ministry by: The Congregation**

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

**Telephone: (780-532-2415) Email: [secretary@stpaulsuc.ca](mailto: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"*



*Our Prayers are offered for, 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.

**BEEF DINNER and SILENT AUCTION - 2017**

THANK YOU to all who made the 2017 Beef Dinner and Silent Auction a wonderful success! A BIG THANK YOU to Chef Andrew from Brown's Social House for the tasty roast beef. We are so blest to have his volunteer support and his skills.

Thanks to Sherri Alstad for the FUN AUCTION and to her volunteer team. Great job!

Thanks to Marge's Dinner team: all those who provided salads, pies and buns, the tasty turnip casseroles and filled the many tasks on the Saturday and Sunday. Also to Betty Grunau for heading up set up and take down, and all those small details like scraping stations, buying plastic forks etc, It took 90 plus volunteers to put on this big fundraising event. A special shout out to the Youth who helped set up, bus and do dishes – I hope all the adults took note ... YAY for our young people. Thanks guys!

Last of all THANKS to all the wonderful dining guests who came to share our evening, enjoy the great food and opened their wallets to bid at the Auction!!! I loved the laughter, the visiting and the hugs for friends and family.

We fed 328 folks; Dinner made approximately \$4600 and Auction made more than \$2000! I'd call that a success. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!!! ~Marge Riley

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