



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
October 1, 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

The Lord, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of all of us has declared, "Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, I will not leave you."
The promises of God are true. The story of God is love. The love of God is for all people. Surely God is in this place, just as God has promised. With grateful hearts we come to worship and praise you, God of love.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

This candle reminds us that we are loved.
This candle reminds us that we are never alone
Thanks be to God. Amen

OPENING PRAYER

Creator, Source of Life and Love,
We come to worship today seeking relationship with our God
Make us worthy of that relationship
We come worship today with baggage – all the cares and turmoil of the week
Hold us in your embrace and calm our fevered minds that we may know and accept your grace

We come seeking understanding in a complex and confusing world
Open our hearts to your truth that we may understand
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ, who taught his friends to pray saying.....

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker #30 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 AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Creator and creating God, you have searched us and you know us. Because you live in us as we live in you, you know our thoughts before we have a chance to say a word. You know our failings, the things that keep us from being in right relationships with those around us and with your world. The fear and insecurity that prevents us from embracing relationships of love and justice, forgive us..... Compassionate and life-giving God.....

You lay your hand upon us and bless us with your grace. We arise forgiven, loved and free. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 28: 10-16, Psalm 139, Matthew 20: 1-16

SILENCE

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

Hymn: I Saw the Rich Ones #127 More Voices

SERMON: **Defying Logic**

Hymn: God Says # 172 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: Christ Has No Body Now But Yours #171 More Voices

COMMISSIONING:

God's living way is before us,
and we will move towards it.
God's place of justice is beside us,
and we will wait here with the forgotten.
God's call for renewal is within us,
and we will respond without counting the cost.

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

POSTLUDE

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.

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.

Immersion: Investing in God's World

This 8 session study invites us to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Created by two United Church ministers (Richard Bott and Dave Anderson) in British Columbia it leads us through the basic precepts of Christian faith and challenges us to make that faith an integral part of our daily life. It is appropriate for those who are new to Christianity, those who have explored these questions on a regular basis, and those who have been around the church for decades but would like to revisit what the faith means. as Richard and Dave write: "**Immersion** is our attempt to provide a foundation on which people can build and deepen their faith"

I am thinking of leading a group through the **Immersion** program here at St. Paul's either on Sunday afternoons or Wednesday evenings. Let me know if you are interested and which time works best for you and I will order copies of the resources.
--Gord

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.

The first Sunday of each month there is a second offering that is dedicated to local outreach. **This month from September 1- 30 we gave out 7 food/ gas vouchers for a total of \$4000.00 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

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"



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.

"Everyone is welcome at God's banquet table. Good stewards use their resources to help ensure that no one feels left out of God's abundance..."

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.

The Observer – Renewal Time If you receive the United Church Magazine "The Observer", your subscription is coming up for renewal shortly. The price is \$25.00/year. If you would like to renew your subscription, you can either put the renewal amount of \$25.00 in an envelope clearly marked "Observer" in the Sunday collection plate separate from your regular Sunday offering or drop it into the office or to Bruce White by October 15th. If you would like to start receiving the Observer please contact the office. There are copies in the Foyer if you would like to take a look at one before you order.

P&M breakfast and work meeting, Saturday, October 14th at 8:00 a.m.



- *Council Treasurer*
- *Chair Elect for Church Council*
- *2 Members at Large for Council*
- Council positions: speak to any council executive member
- *Sunday School Teachers* – speak to Holly Loughead
- *Newsletter Editor* – speak to Sharon Adams
- *Pastoral Care Visitor(s)* -even once a month will help speak to Judy Barber

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!

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.

***** \$367.90 has been brought in since January 1, 2017*****

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

October 26-28, Lacombe, AB: Phase 2, Healing from the Heart: Is one of two parts of Phase 2 in the Healing Pathway program. It provides an opportunity to deepen the experience of healing and connecting to God's healing power through the heart centre. St. Andrew's United Church. Instructors: Deb Firus, Jackie Walters>Contact Roberta Dyck if interested, chris.dyck@hotmail.com

Looking Ahead – Save the Date(s)

Sat., Oct 7th 8:30 pm to 12:00 am - We are invited to enjoy some couples dancing, line dancing, and a little free-style too! Entrance is by donation, bottled water will be provided, please bring a snack to share if you wish. Clean shoes are required. Grab a friend and see you on the dance floor. This is being hosted by our Friday night line dancing teacher and his wife - Joshua and Kelsey Benson - at McLaurin Baptist. All are invited.

Let's make a beautiful and bountiful display for Thanksgiving. We invite you to bring donations of harvest produce, either from your garden, farmers' market or the grocery store to church on **October 8th**. You are asked to take your donations to the display at the front of the sanctuary when you arrive for the service. **The food will be donated to the Food Bank.**

Clairmont United Church Roast Beef Supper & Silent Auction will be held Saturday, October 21 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. at Sexsmith Civic Centre. To reserve tickets, please call Karen at 780-538-9136.

Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Silent Auction
Sunday, November 5th
St Paul's United Church
Open seating from 4:30 – 6:30
Adults \$20.00 ~ Youth 6-14 \$10.00 ~ Under 5 - Free

Please contact Carla in the church office 780-532-2415 if you are able to donate carrots, potatoes or would like to make a cash donation.

Items for the silent auction can be dropped off at the church and need to be clearly marked "Silent Auction". Please contact Sherry Alstad at 780-568-4679 if you have any questions.

Volunteers for dishes, set up, clean up etc. will be needed; silent auction donations and food donations too. Marge Riley (780) 532-7849 will be contacting people for donations of salads, pies & to sign up for many tasks needing willing hands on the day.

So please watch the bulletin and listen for announcements this month
Tell your neighbours and friends to hold this date.