



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

October 22, 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

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.

Here we say "Speak God, your children are listening"

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

Loving God, we open our hearts and souls to you.

In this time of worship whisper in our ears,

fill us with a Word to share with each other

and give us the courage to share that Word.

Then, we pray, lead us back into the world,

to share the promise of love, to share the vision of the Kingdom

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Word made flesh, who taught his friends to pray saying...

LORD'S PRAYER

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

You are invited to celebrate

the 90th birthday of Gordon Percy

In a "come and go" open house

Saturday, October 28th from 1-4:30 pm



in the

Al Robertson Room at Centre 2000 – Grande Prairie, AB

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*****

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

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

Gathering Hymn: Open My Eyes

#371 Voices United

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 we grow comfortable, and we seek rest.

But you continue to whisper in our ears.

We hear the whisper but we fail to understand what it is,

or we fail to help others know what they hear.

Then we wake up, we realize the truth and we listen.

But sometimes the words are hard, and we would rather pretend we did not hear them.

God of grace, God of wisdom,

open our ears to hear hard truths.

God of grace, God of wisdom, God who calls us to action,

give us the courage to share hard truths with the world around us.

God of grace, God who knows us deeply,

touch our hearts, calm our fears,

hear our confession for those times we choose not to listen and for those times we choose not to respond.

...time of silent prayer...

God is gracious and forgiving. God continues to call us until we respond. When we slip or miss the mark God calls us to learn and to try again. We are forgiven, and in God's grace we are called forward.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1 Samuel 3:1-3:21

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 *The Word of the Lord*

Hymn: Lord, Speak to me

#589 Voices United

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 Have Called You by Your Name

#161 More Voices

COMMISSIONING:

Our time of worship draws to a close

and we prepare to go back to our living and working and serving.

As you go, keep your ears open for the whisper,

where God's voice intersects our daily life.

And when you hear it,

we commit ourselves to listen and to respond.

Go with God, who has created and is creating; with Jesus, the Word made flesh, who redeems and makes new; and with the Spirit who sustains and strengthens us

Always, wherever we go.

Sung Benediction: May God's Sheltering Wings

(2X)

#214 More Voices

POSTLUDE

When we are gone, what legacy will we leave?

Will it be one of generous giving from God's abundance, or one of hoarding and fear?

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.

“Everything comes from God and belongs to God; we give, not in tribute to God’s power, but in gratitude for what we have been given.”

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.



- *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!

Looking Ahead – Save the Date(s)

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

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.

Labyrinth Walks

Please join us for meditation
an inward journey on a sacred path.. 7:00 pm
October 22, November 19 and December 17th

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.

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 \$400.00 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