



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
September 24, 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

Come and give thanks to God!

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the people say,

"God's steadfast love endures forever."

Let all of creation proclaim,

"God's steadfast love endures forever."

When we cry out to God in times of trouble,

we are confident that better times lie ahead.

Therefore, why live in fear or worry about the future?

Christ is always at our side.

Why live with guilt or regret about the past?

There is forgiveness and a new day to begin.

We start today, as we hope to begin every day,

with songs of gratitude and thanksgiving.

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

In the beginning, God said "Let there be light", and there was light

As we begin a new week we invite the God-light which shines throughout our faith story to shine in our midst

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

OPENING PRAYER

Inviting and welcoming God,

We gather this morning, to raise our voices in

The first Sunday of each month there is a second offering that is dedicated to local outreach. This month from **August 1-31 we gave out 11 food/ gas vouchers for a total of \$940.00 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

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.

***** \$259.35 has been brought in since January 1, 2017*****

Sunday School is in need of a new teacher for the Junior group. Please contact Holly (780-933-9937) to volunteer.

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.

NEWSLETTER...Please send articles, pictures, and any information you'd like to share to sharad2224@yahoo.ca. As I am heading to presbytery...cutoff for the

October newsletter is this Tuesday, September 26th. So looking forward to having my inbox flooded today or tomorrow with a picture from each of you re "Where i went on my summer vacation" or "what I did on my summer vacation"

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

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

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

celebration and thanksgiving for this community.

**We gather this morning, desiring a closer relationship
with our neighbours and with you.**

**We gather this morning, seeking to understand your mission,
and our place in it.**

Creating and revealing God,

**We gather this morning, with hopeful and expectant hearts,
knowing that on this day, in this place, here,
we will meet you face to face.**

Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn: All Who Hunger

#460 Voices United

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *Stone Soup*

PRAYER FOR AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Creator, we are grateful for this opportunity

to remember our blessings

and to be reminded to embrace them all with thanks.

We admit that we have at times taken them for granted.

**We have made mistakes and done wrong things
that have jeopardized these good things and our appreciation of them.**

We are awed by the generosity of your love and forgiveness

and your encouragement to concentrate on moving forward,

offering similar love and generosity to ourselves and others.

**We will need your help, though, in sorting out our thoughts,
to look back with gratitude but not regret or guilt,
and to look forward to the future with hope rather than anxiety.**

In Jesus' life, and the parables he shared,

his focus was not on people's pasts,

but on the new starts they could make in every moment.

**Therefore, help us to concentrate first and foremost
on celebrating the blessings and opportunities of the day. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Exodus 16:1-18

Matthew 20:1-16

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 *What We Need...*

Hymn: I Saw the Rich Ones

#127 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: Walk With Me

#649 Voices United

COMMISSIONING:

We have come and we have worshipped

with word and music, prayer and song.

We have opened ourselves to God's comfort and God's challenge,

and we have experienced God's presence in our midst.

As we leave this place, we are prepared to celebrate the holy in our midst,

**to share the Spirit of God with all those we will meet on the road,
knowing that God is at work, transforming lives and communities,**

and trusting that we are not alone, God is with us.

Amen!

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

POSTLUDE

(Liturgical resources this week have come from *We Sing Thanksgiving*, a Stewardship resource produced by the United Church of Canada)

"Stewardship asks us to share God's love with all God's people, not just a select few."

As part of our Stewardship campaign we will be taking up a loose change collection as part of the Children's Time today. Proceeds will be sent to the Emergency Appeal supporting those in the Caribbean impacted by this year's series of hurricanes.

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.

Labyrinth cancelled this Sunday, sorry for the inconvenience.

TODAY is the Congregational potluck after worship.

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.

STEWARDSHIP Campaign has begun. Please pick up your letter of invitation at the back of the church. If you see one in there, for someone who isn't in church, please take the opportunity to deliver it and acquaint yourself with them.

Dates to Remember:

Senior Lodge service, Wild Rose –	Sunday, September 24 at 6:00 pm
Beginner bells-	Sunday, September 24, 11:20 - Noon
Handbells -	Monday, September 25 at 7:00 pm

(Must have music background and / or handbell experience, with communication and try out with conductor. Please contact Jeannette 780 356-2866.)

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.

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.

This is an invitation to the ladies of the congregation to attend the fall gathering of the UCW on Wed, Sept 27th at 7pm in the Friendship room. HIV North will be doing a presentation and, in the spirit of sisterhood, we will be collecting "feminine products" to donate to their cause. Please join us for squares, coffee and info, hosted by Unit 4!

Saturday, Sept 30 - Orange Shirt Day 2017 is on as part of Alberta Culture Days. The City of Grande Prairie and the Grande Prairie Aboriginal Circle of Services (GPACOS) are once again presenting this event to continue the dialogue on the effects of the residential school system, particularly children's loss of culture and sense of belonging and how the community can move forward. Orange shirt day grew out of Phyllis Webstad's story of having her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. This free community even takes place from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Mamawe Concourse outside the Montrose Cultural Centre 9839 103 Ave. There will be a lot of great activities such as bannock making, blanket exercise, scavenger hunt, drum making and beading. For more information go to the City of Grande Prairie website - Events calendar <http://www.cityofgp.com/index.aspx?recordid=10179&page=21>

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.

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.