

Order of Worship for November 14th, 2021 - 25th Sunday after Pentecost
Please join us for worship in person or on YouTube at 10:00 am
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-aWw0Tc165vh6Epdr- XBxw>

WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME: *Welcome In, Welcome All* verses 1&2 (Written by Bryan Cook *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021* p.55)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

The land where we live and work is ours to use for a moment in time. This land has been home to many before us and will be home to many after us. Here in Grande Prairie we live and work on land shared under Treaty #8. It is the homeland of the Beaver and the Cree. Now we live together as treaty peoples.

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

To be a church family is a blessing.

To encourage and care for one another is a joy.

To work together for the common good of all people and all creation is our calling.

Come, let us worship as the body of Christ.

**We come as followers of the Way of Jesus,
as those inspired by the Spirit of God,
to worship sing and pray.**

(written by Susan Lukey *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021* p.31)

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

~ those present online are invited to use the chat function on YouTube, those present in person are invited to turn and wave or bow to the people around you as you exchange words of peace

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

In a world that can be chaotic and frightening,

we light a candle of hope.

In a world where the way is uncertain

may this light of Christ show us the way.

Let us centre ourselves for worship....

(written by Beth W Johnston *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021* p.30)

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, open our hearts

that we may feel the breath and play of your Spirit.

Unclench our hands

**that we may reach out to one another,
and touch and be healed.**

Open our lips

that we may drink in the delight and wonder of life.

Open our eyes

that we may see Christ in friend and stranger.

Breathe your Spirit into us,

and touch our lives with the life of Christ.

(from Aotearoa, New Zealand *Celebrate God's Presence* p.29)

Gathering Hymn VU 559 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing (1L)

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You asked for our hands, that you might use them for your purpose.

I gave them for a moment, then withdrew them for the work was hard.

You asked for our mouths, to speak out against injustice.

I gave you a whisper, that I might not be accused.

You asked for our eyes, to see the pain of poverty.

I closed them, for I did not want to see.

You asked for our life, that you might work through us.

I gave a small part, that I might not get too involved.

O God, forgive us for our calculated efforts to serve you

only when it is convenient to do so,

only in those places where it is safe to do so,

and only with those who make it easy to do so.

O God, forgive me, renew me,

send me out as a useable instrument,

that I might take seriously the meaning of your cross.

(from South Africa *Celebrate God's Presence* p.38, Adapted)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.

The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.

Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

(*Celebrate God's Presence* p.43)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Hebrews 10:19-25

1 Peter 4:8-10

A MOMENT OF 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 *Provoked? To Love?*

Hymn Magic Penny

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

THE OFFERING

Mission Minute *No Way to Treat a Child: Obaida's Story*

<https://united-church.ca/stories/no-way-treat-child-obaidas-story>

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication VU 518 verse 3

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn MV 169 When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides (1L)

COMMISSIONING:

And now into God's world we go:

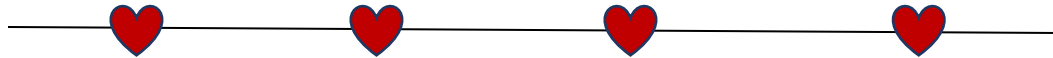
grateful for a love that holds us fast,
ready to live our gratitude in the world,
thankful that we have been blessed,
and eager to be a blessing
in all the places that life calls us to be.

(written by Robin Wardlaw *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021 p.39*)

SUNG BENEDICTION: *Welcome In, Welcome All* verses 4&3

(Written by Bryan Cook *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021 p.55*)

POSTLUDE



Announcements

Ministry by: The Congregation

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

Telephone: (780-532-2415) Email: secretary@stpaulsuc.ca

Sunday School: **Your Name Here??**

Youth Ministry: Holly Loughead 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"

Church Office Hours!

Our Office will be open Monday to Friday 9am to 3 pm.
but closed over the noon hour.

Thinking About Financial Stewardship –The revenue for the week ending on Sunday November 7th, the first Sunday of the month, is - for local expenses 4,646 including Sunday offering, PAR, and e-Transfers. The budget for local expenses is 4,912 per week (annual budget divided by 52). "You are sent into this world to believe in yourself as God's chosen one and then to help (others) know that they also are beloved (children) of God who belong together". Henri Nouwen. Thank you for your response to your church and community, as one of God's chosen ones.

Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team.

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

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.

COVID UPDATE Council made a recommendation that all St Paul's groups wishing to use the premises, check the rules on gatherings set out by the Alberta Government and ensure that we are meeting and/or exceeding their guidelines, please.

Scrapbooker Wanted. PLEASE:

We have a lot of newspaper clippings about members and events that need to find a good home in a scrapbook. If you can put your talents to use in this worthwhile project it will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Carla in the office and she can show you the documents that need to be tenderly organized for family history purposes :)

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

LOOKING AHEAD:

Fri., Nov. 19th – 102 Street Stitchers – will not be operating until we are back in the clear with the COVID issues, but we are still on hand to help anyone needing a hand, feel free to contact Heather Fedoruk or Gail Schau directly should you need mending or help with a project or call the office and Carla will pass on the message. Hopefully, in the new year, we can look at meeting again at the church in better times,

Sat. Nov. 27th – 10 am – decorating the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas.

Continuing in Hope: 60th Anniversary of United Church Women

The UCW turns 60 in 2022! Registration is now open for the national 60th Anniversary celebration to be held **July 11-15**, in Sydney, Nova Scotia. For more information, or to register please see the Friday email for the link. Please note that registrations are limited to 22 participants from each Regional Council.

Next Newsletter will be out Sunday, November 28th – Advent 1

THEME is “ *We believe in God ...who has come in Jesus the Word made flesh.*”

Deadline Thursday – November 25th - please send reflections on the theme, pictures, recipes, stories, news and information for others to Sharon Adams

AROUND THE COMMUNITY:

Fair Trade Sale – at the museum.

Friday, Nov 19th - 10 am – 9 pm

Saturday Nov 20th – 10 am – 6 pm

Sunday Nov. 21st - 10 am – 6 pm

The team that is running this are bringing in products from *Village Goods* out of Edmonton such as coffee, crafts, soaps, jewellery, etc. (COVID protocols will be in place as required by the city and the province)

AROUND THE COMMUNITY:

**Festival of Trees – Runs Thursday. Nov 25th to Sunday. Nov 28th
Seniors Day – Friday, Nov. 26th – 10 am to 6 pm**

To purchase tickets, go to <https://www.festivaloftreesgp.ca>

You must also purchase a General Admission ticket to enter the facility

Seniors are free but still require a ticket sold at \$0.

Support the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation...

<https://gphospitalfoundation.ca/the-festival-of-trees-is-happening/>

Surviving the Holidays Seminar - Wed., November 17th –
from 6:30 -8:30 pm – Online

Hosted by: Oliver's Funeral Home

Pre- Register by phone 780.814.1224 or on their website

When you are grieving the loss of a loved one the holidays can be hard. Come hear about some practical strategies for getting through the holiday season.

See poster with all the information on the Bulletin Board

Oliver's Christmas Candlelight Service – Sunday., December 5th -
at 7:00 pm Online

Pre- Register by phone 780.532.2929 or on their website

RSVP by Fri. Nov 26th at 4:00 pm to have your loved one's photo included in the video tribute. This is a time to reflect and honour those we have lost.

See Poster on the bulletin board for more details.