



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

January 28, 2024

*Through Faith, we walk on the path Jesus set for us.
The people of St. Paul's Belong... Believe... Love... Listen... Lead.*



WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME MV122 This Is The Day (2x) (1L)

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

As children of God, who strive to live in God's Way,

we gather together in this place.

As people seeking to follow the path of wisdom,

we gather together in this place.

As people trusting that God flows around and through us, giving us wisdom,

we gather together in this place.

As we gather, seeing God in friend and stranger, we start by exchanging words and signs of God's peace...

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jesus said "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. "

As this candle light is set up high so all can see by its light, so may we shine in the world.

As people of faith we centre ourselves for worship

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)

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn MV 10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom (1L)

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Source of Life, you call us to live in community, loving our neighbours as we love ourselves.

And we really want to do that. We really try to do that.

Sometimes we do it well. Other times we could do so much better.

God of Grace, you call us to live in community, loving our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Help us find the balance point between our own wants and what best supports our neighbours.
In a culture that so often tells us that the individual is king,
reawaken in us the glory of being part of a community and putting the community's needs first.
Push us to pause and ask how our actions can best support all the members of the community.
And in this way live out our call to be people of love.

God of Grace, where we succeed and where we fail to live out Love
help us keep living and loving.

...time of silent prayer...

God is Gracious, God is Forgiving, God is Loving.
Where we succeed God celebrates with us.
Where we struggle, God gives us the chance and the tools to try again.
And in all of it God loves us, so that we can love ourselves and each other.
Thanks and praise be to God! Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

GIFT OF MUSIC: O the dDep Love of Jesus' by Samuel Trevor
Sung by Emily Bamforth

SERMON *To Do or Not To Do*

Hymn MV 120 My Soul Cries Out (1L)

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

THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story *Preserving Culture through Language Revitalization*

(<https://united-church.ca/stories/your-january-2024-mission-and-service-stories>)

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication MV143 We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky (vs3)

How Has God Touched Your Life This Week?

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn VU 593 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (1L)

COMMISSIONING:

You are the hands and feet of God in Grande Prairie

You are called to soothe suffering, to live with compassion, to build up God's loving peace.

So as you leave this place, how will you live?

We go from this place of worship to share the gifts we have been given.

We go from this time of worship to build up the Body of Christ.

We go from this holy space to carry the Holy to the world around us.

Go in love, go in peace, go with God.

Amen.

SUNG BENEDICTION : VU 298 When You Walk From Here (3X) (1L)

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Ministry by: The Congregation

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

Telephone: (780-532-2415) Email: stpaulsucgp@gmail.com

Sunday School: Your name here?

Youth Ministry: Your name here? 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"

Regular Office Hours are Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm.
but closed over the noon hour.

"Would you like a visit with Rev Gord? This can be easily arranged by contacting the office. Call Carla and she will arrange something for you " 780-532-2415



We are in need of Scripture Readers, and Door Greeters, and Coffee Hosts / Hostesses every Sunday. Please sign the lists in the foyer if you would like to volunteer to help on any given Sunday.

Have you joined St. Paul's Recyclable program yet? St. Paul's has an easy fundraiser to help with the Church renovations. Just 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. Check in with the cashier and let them know how many bags/boxes of bottles/cans you dropped off.

At St. Paul's the calendar is filling up as groups are starting to meet again. **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.** You can also check out our new calendar on the church website, to get an idea who else is in the building and in what room(s) to know if it will conflict with your plans. <https://74071685.view-events.com/calendar/74071685/>

Thinking About Financial Stewardship – Revenue for local expenses in the week ending January 21st is \$2,845 (includes PAR, Sunday offering, and e-transfers).

To meet the budget, we need \$5,231 (total budget divided by 52).

"When you pass along a gift to a neighbour or the world (or to your church) trust that you and they will have enough" (UCC Stewardship Second)

Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team.

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 to stpaulsucgp@gmail.com with the details.

Reminder Ministry Teams - Narrative Reports from Ministry Teams and other working groups for 2023 are **due by Monday, February 5th, 2024** .



Explorer's Blessing Bags

Supporting the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre Please take note of the donation box through January to collect the following recommended items:

Warm socks, gloves, hats, for men and women	Lip Balm
Underwear for men and women	Tissue Packages
Razors	Personal Size Wet Wipes
Pads/Tampons (personal pkgs)	Nutrition bars
Brushes, combs	Dried Fruit / Nuts – indiv. Pkgs
Toothbrushes / Toothpaste	Ind. Pkg. peanut butter or cheese & crackers

If you would prefer to make a financial donation please drop off a cheque or e-transfer the church stpaulsucgp@gmail.com and indicate that your donation is for the Explorer's Blessing Bag project. **Donation Deadline is February 4th.**

FUNDSCRIP – Gift Card Orders – All Year Fundraiser - We are proposing submitting an order every couple of months for those that are interested in ordering more Gift Cards for everyday food, gas, eating out, clothing retailers etc, to help St Paul's raise money by getting a percentage of the gift card value for our church. Order forms are available on our website, at the back of the sanctuary or from the office. **Next order will be going in Sun., February 25th. Gift Cards will be here March 3rd.**

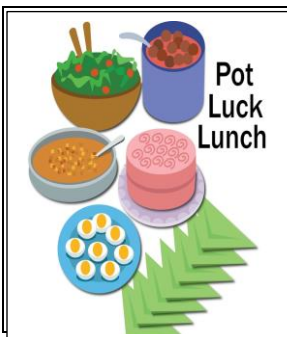
This is open to you and your neighbours and friends, as a way to buy gift cards but also support a local charity. Feel free to just email us the order details: for example... 1- \$100.00 Extra Foods; 2 - \$10 A&W; 2 - \$25 Canadian Tire – Total \$170.00 or submit an order form indicating the amounts and values. Send a payment by cheque, or e-transfer indicating Fundscrip order.

If you have any questions feel free to talk to Margaret Taylor 780-882-3803, or Sharon Adams 587-297-1570.



Are you a music maker, a dancer, an orator, a magician, a clown? Do you like to tell jokes, use puppets, perform skits? Then we want you to share your skills at **"St. Paul's and Friends Talents Unleashed"**. **Friday, March 15 @ 7:30pm** That gives you two months to prepare!! Entry deadline: March 1 to Paula Anderson 587-343-0878 or Karen Scott 780-933-4055

THIS COMING WEEK



Lunch and Learn!

All are invited to a **potluck lunch following worship on Sunday January 28th.**

After we eat and visit we will take time to learn about Remit #1. Remits are part of how we make changes in the United Church, this one is about the future of the Indigenous Church.

For more information on the remit question check out page 14 of the latest Newsletter.

Sun., Jan 28th – 7:00 pm – Labyrinth Walk

Mon., Jan 29th - 7:00 pm – Handbell Practice

Tue., Jan 30th – Bible Study on Zoom –The link and scriptures will be sent out in the Friday e-blast the week before and on Tuesdays.

Tues., Jan 30th – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – CGIT / Explorers

Thu., Feb 1st – 10:30 am - Music Mornings Music fun for 2-4 year olds and their caregivers. Cost is \$5 per family per week.

Thu., Feb 1st - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm – Embers –in the small basement

Fri., Feb 2nd – 10 am – 11 am – Coffee's On – in the Friendship Room – Drop in and hang out. No agenda just a time to visit.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun., Feb 4th – Informational Congregational Meeting –an update from the Pathfinder's Task Group after church, there will be no voting happening.

Mon., Feb 5th – Narrative Reports due in the office.

Wed., Feb 7th – 1:30 pm – UCW meeting – In the Friendship Room

Fri., Feb 9th – 9 am – 12 noon - 102 St Stitchers - Join in in the Friendship Room, enter by the NW door off the parking lot. Bring your own project, help with a project that Gail and Heather have on the go, or just come and have a coffee and some conversation.

Wed., Feb 14th – 10:00 am - 11:30 am - Stephen Lewis – Grandmothers to Grandmothers Muffin Morning The annual coffee and muffins party hosted by the UCW will be held Wednesday, February 14th at 10:00 a.m. This will be the 15th fund raiser the St Paul's United UCW has had in support of the Stephen Lewis Grandmothers to Grandmothers' campaign! Please plan to attend and bring a friend.

Fri., Mar 1st - 7 pm - World Day of Prayer - in our sanctuary as we are hosting this year.

Sun., Mar 3rd – Annual Congregational Meeting - after church in the Sanctuary.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Coffee's On

*Drop in and hang out.
Bring your knitting, your
crocheting, yourself and a
neighbour, or work on the puzzle
???*

No agenda just a time to visit.



**First one...Friday,
February 2nd
10 am – 11 am
In the Friendship Room**

Ongoing Schedule:

First Friday each month at 10 am
Third Wednesday each month at 1:30 pm

Coffee's On		
Month	1st Friday 10 am	3rd Wednesday 1:30 pm
February	Feb 2nd	Feb 21st
March	Mar 1st	Mar 20th
April	Apr 5th	Apr 17th
May	May 3rd	May 15th
June	Jun 7th	Jun 19th

Interac e-Transfer is a simple, convenient, and secure way to send and receive money directly from one bank account to another. All you need is access to online or mobile banking through a participating financial institution, and you can send money to St. Paul's United Church — without sharing any personal financial information. It's a great alternative to cheques and cash.

To give using Interac e-Transfer please use this email address to send your donation to St. Paul's United Church - stpaulsucgp@gmail.com

In the note field of your transaction request, please indicate your envelope number (if you have one) and what fund(s) you are wanting your donation to go to. You can split your donation between funds (Example: If your donation is \$100 your note could say - \$25 GF, \$50 MS, \$25 OU or any other combination of amounts and funds you would like to support).

Fund: (Code)

- General Fund (GF) Mission and Service (MS)
- Capital Fund (CA)
- Outreach (OU)

Any donations made without a fund code will be considered a "General Funds" donation.

Offering Envelopes - Making your donation using a set of offering envelopes is the easiest way to ensure you receive a tax receipt for your donation(s). 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 indicate your envelope # on your donation(s) so it can be accorded to the correct person.

Sign up for PAR ((Pre-Authorized Remittance)...just talk to Carla and she'll send you the form to fill out, or adjust the amount you wish to remit each month, at any time.

Canada Helps – You can also donate through Canada Helps. (Please note - These donations will be receipted by Canada Helps directly, not St Paul's United Church) <https://stpaulsuc.ca/index.php/donate/>