



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
February 11th, 2024 – Transfiguration Sunday

*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

Rejoice, people of God!

Celebrate the life within you, and Christ's presence in your midst!

Our eyes shall be opened!

The present will have new meaning, and the future will be bright with hope.

Rejoice, people of God!

Bow your heads before the One who is our wisdom and our strength.

We place ourselves before our God,

that we may be touched and cleansed by the power of God's Spirit

As we gather to worship we greet each other with words and signs of Christ's peace.

(Adapted from Celebrate God's Presence p.124)

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

God of power and wonder,

we are awestruck by the glory of your presence.

We rejoice at what we can see;

we marvel at what we cannot see.

You dazzle us with your brightness;

you overshadow us as with a great cloud.

Loving, protecting, challenging, nurturing,

you strengthen and transform us.

May we love and serve you, in all that we are and do.

Glory be to you. **Amen**

(Celebrate God's Presence p.126)

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn VU341 Fairest Lord Jesus (PD)

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

How Has God Touched Your Life This Week?

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Source of Life, as people who seek to follow your Way, we echo the old song:

Open our eyes that we may see, glimpses of truth...

Sometimes we see clearly, sometimes our eyes are veiled,

sometimes we only see the whirlwind, not the gift that lies hidden in its midst

sometimes we only see the clay jar, not the treasure that it holds.

Help us see beyond the obvious, help us see where you are active in our world,

and forgive us for the times we are oblivious, when we choose not to see.

In Grace-filled Love God continues to open our eyes, to help us see, to reveal God's power and promise. Through God's Grace we can see beyond the veil. Through God's love and mercy our blindness is forgiven and removed.

And so we continue to sing:

Open our eyes, illumine us, Spirit Divine. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Corinthians 4:1-7

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 *What Do You See?*

Hymn MV 142 Oh, a Song Must Rise

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

THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story

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

The Invitation:

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

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn VU 642 Be Thou My Vision (PD)

COMMISSIONING:

We came together, we sang, we prayed, we looked for God's presence.

Now we go out to serve, to pray, to look for God's activity.

As you live and serve, may you let God's love flow through you into the world at large.

As we live and love, may our eyes be opened to see God in friend and neighbour.

So go now with open eyes and open hearts. Go trusting that God,

who has created and is creating;

who is revealed in Jesus, the Word-Made-Flesh;

who works in each of us through the Holy Spirit

Is with you each step of life's journey.

Thanks be to God. Amen

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU 298 When You Walk From Here (2X) (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.

Thinking About Financial Stewardship – Revenue for local expenses in the week ending February 4th is \$3,630 (includes PAR, Sunday offering, and e-transfers). To meet the budget, we need \$5,231 (total budget divided by 52)

“We believe in a God who is creating, reconciling, and making new. As stewards and disciples, our eyes are searching for opportunities to be co-creators with the Spirit, transforming and being transformed”
(UCC Stewardship Second)

The 2023 total to Mission and Service was \$24,360. This includes \$1,000 contributed from UCW. Thank you so much for helping us to almost reach our commitment of \$25,000. And thank you for seeing ways of being good stewards.

Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team

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.

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.



“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

Sincere thanks to everyone who made St. Paul’s fundraiser, apple pies and rhubarb crisps last Monday. The fruit of our labour will be on sale after church the next few Sundays.

Pies and crisps are \$20 each, and there are a few smaller size pies and crisps at \$10 each.

Hope you enjoy them.

THIS COMING WEEK

Mon., Feb 12th – Council and Pathfinders meeting

Mon., Feb 12th - 7:00 pm – Handbell Practice

Mon. Feb 12th – 7:00 pm – Council meeting with Pathfinders Task Group in the Narthex

Tue., Feb 13th – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Suppers:

...at Christ Church Anglican - 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

...at Clairmont United Church - 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Tue., Feb 13th – Bible Study on Zoom –7:00 pm The link and scriptures will be sent out in the Friday e-blast the week before and on Tuesdays.

Tues., Feb 13th – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – CGIT / Explorers

Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday, Wed. Feb 14th

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.

Thu., Feb 15th – 10:30 am - Music Mornings Music fun for 2-4 year olds and their caregivers. Cost is \$5 per family per week.

Thu., Feb 15th - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm – Embers –in the small basement

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, Feb 18th – Lent 1

Wed., Feb 21st – 1:30 pm – Coffee's On - See you in the Friendship Room, to chat or puzzle or just sit and listen while other's share concerns or joys and share a laugh.

Wed., Feb 21st – 7:00 pm – Council Meeting

Fri., Feb 23rd – 5:30 – 8:30 – Pizza n Games Night in the Friendship Room

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, St Paul's. 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.

Friday, March 1st – 7:00 pm – World Day of Prayer. St Paul's is hosting the other churches this year. The service was written by the women of Palestine. The theme from Ephesians 4:1-3 is: *I beg you.....bear with one another in love.*

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

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**

Entry deadline: March 1st to Paula Anderson 587-343-0878 or Karen Scott 780-933-4055



Next Newsletter deadline is Thursday, March 7th so it will be out Sun, March 10th – The fruit of the Spirit we will be reflecting on in this issue is **Joy**. If you see a short story about Joy, have a reflection on Joy to share; a favourite recipe; have news about an event people should know about happening in March or April...send it to Sharon Adams 587-297-1570 or sharad2224@yahoo.ca by Thursday, March 7th please.

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 quite busy. **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 online 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/>

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

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 donations 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/>

