



## ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

August 25, 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 VU 324 Jesus, Come to Our Hearts vss 1&3 (1L)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**inviting us to worship.**

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**inviting us by love.**

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**calling us by name,**

**calling us to grow in faith,**

**calling us to be made new.**

As we come to worship in this season of the Spirit we greet each other with words and signs of Christ's peace.

*(Celebrate God's Presence p.22)*

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light the Christ candle, sign of the light that lives with us and within us.

**God's generous light shines out from us!**

We light this candle as a sign of the Christ-light we carry within us.

**We are God's generous light in the world! Praise be!**

As God's Beloved Children we centre ourselves for worship

*(Written by Bob Root <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)*

OPENING PRAYER

**The richness of summer surrounds us as we take much-needed time for recreation.**

**May we use this time, we pray, for re-creation,**

**opening our hearts and lives to your love, Gracious God. Amen.**

*(Written by Fern Gibbard <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)*

Gathering Hymn VU 560 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee (PD)

### 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

Gracious God, you blow life's breath into our lungs.

**We live in you, we live through you.**

You call us to live lives marked by forgiveness, love, hope, compassion.

**And we strive to do so.**

But if we are honest,

**sometimes our lives are marked by resentment, dis-interest, fear, self-centeredness**

God of Grace,

**when we get it right celebrate with us, when we miss the mark gently guide us back to the path of wisdom.**

*...time of silent prayer...*

God is gracious and merciful. God celebrates our successes and mourns our mis-steps. God continues to call us back to the Way with forgiveness and grace and mercy.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

❖ Joshua 24:14-18

❖ John 6:56-69

SERMON *Where Would You Go?*

#### 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)

Hymn MV 216 *Wherever You May Go* (1L)

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

#### THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story Church Offers Unique Ministry in National Park

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication: VU 676 *God, Make Us Servants of Your Peace* (vss1,4) (1L)

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn VU120 *O Jesus, I Have Promised* (PD)

#### COMMISSIONING:

Go into the world:

dance, laugh, sing, and create.

**We go with the assurance of your blessing, O God.**

Go into the world:

risk, explore, discover, and love.

**We go with the assurance of your grace, O God.**

Go into the world:

believe, hope, struggle, and remember.

**We go with the assurance of your love, O God.**

Thanks be to God!

*(Celebrate God's Presence p.73)*

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU 647 *Travel On, Travel On* vss 1& 3 (1L)

#### POSTLUDE

# Announcements

Ministry by: *The Congregation*

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

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

Sunday School: *Susan Thomson, Lori Ellis*

Youth Ministry: *Valerie Jenner* Music Director: *Alison White.*

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*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”*

## Summer Office Hours! (July 1 to Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> )

Closed Monday

Tue., Wed., Thu., 9 am - 12 noon and 1 pm - 3 pm

Occasionally Fridays until noon

So please call ahead to ensure someone will be in the office.

Carla is on vacation August 29 Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Thinking About Financial Stewardship in the Summer** – Here are the mid year revenue and expense figures for local. To June 30 revenue is \$129,320 (includes Sunday offerings, e-transfers, PAR, fundraising, and rent). Total expenses for local are \$139,470 (includes salaries and benefits, building expenses, insurance, and office expenses). The deficit for the year to date is \$10,150.

*“When we give all that we are able to in support of the ministry of our church, we are contributing something that does not perish, and gives life to the world.”* UCC Stewardship Second.

Thank you for your commitment to the ministry of St. Paul’s.

Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team

**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.

## **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 ([stpaulsucgp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsucgp@gmail.com)) with your new details so we can keep our records up to date! Thank you!

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

Thank you!

**The United Church of Canada’s Apology Task Group invites feedback** on a draft apology to members of the 2S and LGBTQIA+ communities harmed by The United Church of Canada. This is a part of the United Church’s commitment to continued learning, reconciliation and action. The [draft and feedback survey can be found here](#). **Deadline for this stage and draft: 6 September 2024**

## 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.

### SPECIAL DATES / INFORMATION ITEMS:

**Fri., Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sat Aug 24<sup>th</sup> - - 6:00 pm - Card's Café Fundraiser Cabaret – at GPLT**

Doors and Games at 6:00 pm; Concert at 7:00 pm; Board Game Mixer 8:30  
Concession and Drinks Available. Tickets \$35.00 via GPLT

**Sat., Aug 24<sup>th</sup> – 10 am - 1:00 pm** - Garage sale (then clean up until done)

**Sun., Aug 25<sup>th</sup> – Labyrinth Walk Cancelled.**

**Mon., Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 – 7:00 pm** Value Village FUNDrive drop off day in church parking lot. This is the time to bring your bagged donations of clothes, shoes, boots, purses, belts, towels and bedding.

**Fri., Aug 30<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 - 8:30** **Pizza N' Games in the Friendship Room** - Please let Patti Stebbing know if you have a special pizza you'd like available text 250-262-6173. Sharon will let her know the usual orders.

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Wed., Sept 4<sup>th</sup> – UCW Meeting - 1:30 pm** in the Friendship Room.

**Fri., Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Sound Bath** - NE doors open at 6:45 - Come and join us on the Labyrinth.

**Sun., Sept 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School begins** 😊

**Mon., Sept 9<sup>th</sup> - Building Transition Task Group** - 7:00 pm in the Choir Room

**Tue. Sept 10<sup>th</sup> - CGIT Registration Opening Night**

**Wed., Sept 11<sup>th</sup> - Stewardship and Finance Meeting** - 7:00 pm in the Friendship Room

**Thur., Sept 12 - Music Morning** - 10:30 am in the Kids Corner

**Fri., Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – 102<sup>nd</sup> Street Stitchers – 9 am – 12 noon**

**Join us for a special presentation at 10 am this day...**we will be having a representative from Days for Girls coming in for a presentation. This is a way to give back to our community and the world for females regarding menstrual health. They will give a 20 minute presentation and then we can ask questions, enjoy a coffee together as we start back for the fall.

We will still be mending and doing our other repairs and projects this morning too.

To see what Days for Girls International is up to around the world go to their website at

<https://www.daysforgirls.org/>

**Fri., Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Sound Bath** – NE doors open at 6:45 - Come and join us on the Labyrinth..

Take some time for yourself...Stepping away from the busyness and spending time letting the bowls' tones work their magic! Cost: donation ( suggested \$20) Bring water, mat and whatever else you need...Bring a friend!

CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN  
TRINITY LUTHERAN  
ST. PAUL'S UNITED

# PET BLESSING

ALL PETS AND PEOPLE ARE WELCOME!  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 @ 1PM



**CHRIST CHURCH, 6610 POPLAR DRIVE**

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHANGLICANGP.ORG

780-532-2039  
anglicangp@gmail.com

Sat., Sept 21st - 1:00 pm - Pet Blessing service at Christ Church Anglican

Sat., Sept 21st – 8:00 am - Property and Maintenance Meeting

Fri., Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm - Yee Haw – The Scott Woods Show

Tickets are available through the church office now. Price is \$45.00.

The Scott Woods Show changes to a brand new theme every year and consistently delivers quality, family entertainment with plenty of variety including trick fiddling, step dancing, old time country & Gospel music, inspirational stories and home spun family humour. Come and bring your neighbours.

**THIS CAME IN FROM GPFC this week....**just wondering if we would be interested as a congregation in adopting a tree for \$450.00.

If yes, please put your donation towards it in a Local Outreach envelope and write "Adopt a Tree" on the outside so we know it is for this program; or send an e-transfer with a note saying it is for "Adopt a Tree".

Your Outreach, Social Justice and Affirming Team.

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## Traditional Healing Garden Adopt a Tree Program

Join us in preserving the environment & promoting the healing power of nature by adopting a tree for our Traditional Healing Garden. By taking part in this initiative, your company can make a meaningful impact on the well-being of our community & contribute to a sustainable future.

- \* FOSTER ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
- \* PROMOTE TRADITIONAL HEALING
- \* ENHANCE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- \* RECOGNITION & BRAND EXPOSURE

Together, let's create a greener, healthier, and harmonious community for generations to come

Adoption fee \$450.00

Includes plaque & photo opportunity

Payment can be done by cheque to Grande Prairie Friendship Centre memo Garden or by e-transfer [gpfcpayment@gmail.com](mailto:gpfcpayment@gmail.com) with Password: Friend include memo Garden

## **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](mailto: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.

**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/>