



## ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

November 3, 2024

*Through Faith, we walk on the path Jesus set for us.*



### WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME MV2 Come All You People (2x) (1L)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls to our hearts,

**the source of our feelings, the core of our being.**

God calls to our souls,

**the home of our spirit, the place where we sense that there is more than we can see.**

God calls to our minds,

**the place of reason, of intellect, where we think through the challenges of life.**

God calls to our strength,

**our ability to make things happen, to work and to serve.**

God calls to our whole being,

**calling us to be people of faith, hope, and love.**

As a community of love let us turn and greet our neighbours with words and signs of Christ's peace.

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Like a beacon leading us to the Promised Land, the light of God shines in the world.

**May this candle flame remind us of God's light, leading us into God's Kingdom.**

As followers of Jesus, the Light of the World, we centre ourselves for worship

OPENING PRAYER

God, you call us to be people of love. You call us to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

**During this time of worship fill our hearts with Your love. As we sing and pray and listen may we hear Your voice reminding us we can and do live out your amazing love in our lives. We pray in the name of the one who came to teach us about the power of love, Jesus of Nazareth. Amen**

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

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *Love Everyone*

Hymn MV138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines (1L)

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Celebration of Communion

INVITATION

Here at this table we join in a ritual that stretches through time and space.

**Here God invites us to share in the banquet of life.**

This is God's table, and God invites all who seek to follow the Way of Jesus Christ to eat and drink from it.

**Come and taste the grace eternal, come and see that God is good.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

May the Peace of Christ, the love of God, and the Power of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you**

God of life, in the beginning of our story you decided to do a new thing. You spoke and creation came into being.

**And we join with millions who have gone before us to share words of praise and thanksgiving for this universe you spoke into being.**

Then after a while you decided again to do a new thing.

You called Abram and Sarai into a new life, promising that through them the world would be blessed.

**The new thing continued through the lives of their children and grandchildren through many generations.**

Then the people were enslaved and you once again did a new thing.

**Calling Moses and Aaron and Miriam to lead the people to freedom, giving them a set of rules to guide how they lived with you and with each other, covenanting to be with them always.**

Over time the people would forget their part of the covenant, they would wander from the path.

And you would send messengers to call them back, men and women filled with your Spirit.

**Remembering all these gifts, all these new things, all these ways you attempted to renew and mend the world we join in the old songs of praise and thanksgiving.**

THE STORY IS TOLD

Eventually, looking at the world, you again decided to do a new thing.

**You chose to become one of us, Word-made-Flesh, to share the joys and sorrows, the slings and arrows of our lives.**

In Jesus of Nazareth, child of Mary you walked among your people

**Jesus revealed a new way of being, Jesus revealed what it would look like to live a life based on love for all he met, Jesus challenged his peers and challenges us to live as though the Kingdom of God was really present in our midst.**

But the world was not ready for Jesus' message, for his challenge, for the Kingdom.

**And so he was arrested, tried, convicted, executed.**

But then you once again did a new thing!

**You raised Jesus from death, shattering the bondage of the grave.**

Here at this table we remember a meal Jesus shared with his closest friends.

During that meal he took bread, blessed it, broke it and passed to to them saying:

**Take, Eat, this is my body broken by the world. Whenever you eat this loaf remember me.**

Then he took a cup of wine, blessed it and passed it to them saying:

**Take, Drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, sealed in my blood. Whenever you drink from it remember me.**

Joining with the community of Christian faith across the miles and the centuries we continue to eat and drink and remember.

**As we share this bread and this cup send your Spirit upon and among us. In the eating and the drinking may our commitment to living as people of The Way be strengthened.**

Fill us with hope for the present and the future so that as people of hope we are ready to give of our selves so that your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**As we gather at this table, unite our hearts and souls with our brothers and sisters in faith across the country and around the globe.**

We pray in the name and memory of Jesus, the man from Nazareth; whom we call Christ and Messiah, and who encourages us to pray together saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven...**

BREAKING, POURING, SHARING

The Bread we share is the Bread of Life.

The Cup we share is the Cup of Love

Gifts from God for the people of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God who invites us to the table,

**We have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness.**

**May the meal we share here today awaken our hunger for the Banquet of Life.**

**May the company of these brothers and sisters renew our commitment to live as people of the Kingdom of Love.**

God who regularly does a new thing,

**As we go out from this meal may we be refreshed and renewed.**

**When the next new thing comes along may we have:**

**the wisdom to discern if it is from you,**

**the courage to embrace what you offer,**

**and the energy to journey with you on the road.**

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Teacher and Guide, our Rock and Redeemer. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Leviticus 19:33-34

Ruth 1:1-10, 19-22

Mark 12:28-34

SERMON *Love the Migrant, the Refugee*

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)

*Where do you see signs of the Reign of God?*

Hymn MV169 When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides (1L)

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

THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story *Accompanying Young Adults Through Transformative Years*

(<https://united-church.ca/stories/accompanying-young-adults-through-transformative-years>)

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication VU537 Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands (PD)

## PRAYER FOR & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God you challenge us to love our neighbour as ourselves,  
**and we do our best.**

But sometimes we are tempted to ask what neighbour actually means,  
**does it mean those who are like us, or those who we know well, or those with shared values?**

God you call us to love each other as you first loved us,  
**that is harder, that is more of a challenge.**

Our faith stories are filled with migrants and refugees, people seeking a new place to live,  
**and we find that you love them, that they are to be treated as neighbours.**

God of challenge, God of grace, help us to love all our neighbours, and remember what all means.  
**Even when they are not like us, even when their presence brings new ideas, new challenges, and new hopes.**

*...time of silence...*

God who loves us calls us to love others. God who created us all and calls us good helps us see everyone as our neighbour. God who is gracious helps us learn better how to live as people of love  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Hymn VU691 Though Ancient Walls (1L)

## COMMISSIONING:

We have heard the story, we have been reminded of the Rule above all Rules.

**And now we go back into the world, the mission field, to live out the Rule of Love.**

We have shared Love's feast, been fed in body and soul.

**And so we are refreshed, ready to share the Love we have met with the world around us.**

What words guide our going out this day?

**Love God. Love Neighbour. Love Self.**

May these words echo in our faces, in our words, in our actions.

**May it be so. Amen.**

SUNG BENEDICTION: Go Gently Go Lightly (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: Lori Ellis, Susan K Thomson**

**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"*

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

**“Your Giving Matters”** - The second (commandment) is this, you shall love your neighbour as yourself” Mark 12:31.  
Revenue for local expenses in the week ending October 27 th is \$5170 (includes PAR, Sunday offering, rent, and eTransfers). To meet the budget, we need \$5,247 (total budget divided by 52). “Loving your neighbour” is at the heart of our giving.

Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team.



**Thinking About Christmas?** Gift cards are a great way to check off your Christmas list while supporting our church. **Fundscrip** Order forms are in foyer ready for pick up.

Please make sure to submit your orders to **Margaret Taylor** by 5 pm Nov 24<sup>th</sup>.

### THIS COMING WEEK

**Sun., Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9 am – Jr Handbell Practice**

**Sun., Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6 pm – Senior’s Service at Pioneer Lodge** All are welcome to attend.

**Sun., Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7:00 pm – Handbell Practice**

Come join us as we ring in the new season!

**Tue. Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 – 8:30 pm - CGIT / Explorers**

**Tue., Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm - Bible Study on Zoom**

**Thur., Nov 7<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am - Music Morning** - in the Kids Corner

**Thur., Nov 7<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Embers** – in the Friendship Room

**Thu., Nov 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:45 pm** ← (New Time) - **Choir** - All voices welcome, please join us as you are able.

**Fri., Nov 8<sup>th</sup> - 9 am to 12 noon - 102nd Street Stitchers** - Stop in and help with a project; bring your own project or just come for coffee.

**Fri., Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – Sound Bath** – in the large Basement

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Wed., Nov 20<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm – Council Meeting** – in the Kids Corner

**Fri., Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 pm - Sound Bath** – in the large Basement

**Sun., Nov 24 – Fundscrip Orders Due Today!**

Please make sure to submit your orders to **Margaret Taylor** by 5 pm today

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### **Help Needed**

A 50-year-old gentleman originally from Bulgaria is seeking a room to rent in Grande Prairie. Ideally, the rental would include access to a kitchen. If you or someone you know can help, please contact **Emile Georgiev** at 1-604-799-6368 for more information. Thank you!

**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/>

**Do you have a special family member you'd like to celebrate by creating an LED slide to commemorate the occasion. We can post the slide for a day or a week.**

We can include a picture, or just have a generic slide with their name and their school logo and colours. Contact the office with the details of the occasion.... A birthday, a graduation, a special milestone and how long you'd like the slide to be up and the date(s) you want it to run. Do they have a favourite animal, colour, or "passion" that we can use to personalize the slide?

### **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!

### **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 a recycling depot.

**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.

### **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 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/>

