



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**  
**January 26, 2025**

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME VU78 Sing till Sundown (1L)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved Children of God, why are you here?

**We are here to listen for God's voice, reminding us that we are loved.**

Beloved Children of God, why have you come?

**We responded to God's invitation to come together to grow in faith, hope and love.**

Beloved Children of God, let us sing and pray and listen, let us celebrate God's presence in our midst

**We open ourselves to let God fill our hearts and souls as we worship together.**

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

God is here! Among us, within us, bringing Light to our lives!

**We light this candle to remind us of God's Light that can never be extinguished.**

Gathered as people who are drawn to the light, we centre ourselves for worship.

OPENING PRAYER

God of love, as we gather together this morning,

**move in our hearts and minds, renew us, remind us of the love that fills the world.**

Gift-giving God, in our time together this morning,

**help us see the abiding gifts of faith hope and love in the world around us.**

And when we move out of our gathering this morning,

**empower us to carry the greatest gift, love, to everyone we meet.**

We pray in the name of Jesus, who reminds us of the power of love, and encourages us to pray saying...

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn VU372 Though I May Speak (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

Gift-giver, you call us to seek for the greater gifts in life.

**Things like faith, hope, and love.**

In grace you offer us these gifts in abundance, and ask that we use them for the common good.

**Help us avoid the temptation to use the gifts you give only to build ourselves up.**

As we continue to seek the greatest gift,

**help us show that we are people shaped and guided by love,**

**help us put aside childish ways as we mature in faith and love.**

Gracious, loving God, we thank you for the gifts you give.

**Help us use them for the benefit of the world you love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1 Corinthians 12:29-14:5

SERMON *The Greatest Gift*

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 MV89 Love Is the Touch (1L)

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

THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story *A Network of Hope*

(<https://united-church.ca/stories/network-hope>)

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication VU93 When Heaven's Bright with Mystery verse 4 (1L)

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn They'll Know We Are Christians (1L)

COMMISSIONING

Beloved Children of God, as you go out from this place:

Commit yourselves to be people of love,  
be patient and kind, not arrogant or rude,  
rejoice in the truth, hope in all things.

**We go to be people of love,  
we go to carrying faith hope and love, things that abide,  
we go to share the greatest gift with the world.**

Beloved Children of God, as you go out from this place:

Trust that God who loves the world deeply,  
Christ, Love Incarnate,  
and the Holy Spirit, who pushes us to act lovingly,  
is with you each and every day.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen**

SUNG BENEDICTION VU82 A Light is Gleaming vss3, 4 (CCLI)

POSTLUDE

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**Help Needed:** We're looking for a few helping hands after worship today to reset the sanctuary. Tasks will include taking down tables, bringing them downstairs, and resetting the chairs for the week ahead.

If you're able to assist, please stay after the service—many hands make light work. Thank you!

**Reminder:** Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month, which means we will be celebrating Communion together. We will also be taking a second offering to support our Outreach Fund, so we can continue to extend our support to those in need within the community.

# 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: Mon–Fri, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
(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.

**“Your Giving Matters”** – ‘Proclaim the good news! Believe the good news! Let us be good stewards of God’s good news.’. (UCC Stewardship Second) Revenue for local expenses in the week ending January 19th is \$3,628 (includes receipted offerings \$3,603, rent \$25). We need \$5,247 (total 2024 budget divided by 52). Thank you for sharing “the good news” by being good stewards of your resources. Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team

**Sun., Jan 26<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm – Handbell Practice**

**Tue., Jan 28<sup>th</sup> – Bible Study on Zoom – restarts** The link and scriptures will be sent out on Tuesdays morning.

**Tues., Jan 28<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – CGIT / Explorers**

**Thu., Jan 30<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am - Music Morning** Music fun for 2-4 year olds and their caregivers. Cost is \$5 per family per week.

**Thu., Jan 30<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm – Embers** –in the Friendship Room

**Wed., Feb 12<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – Grandmothers to Grandmothers Tea** – in the Friendship Room

**Fri., Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Ministry Team Narrative Reports due!**

**Fri., Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am - 102 St Stitchers-** in the Friendship Room

**Sun., Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – Heritage Lodge Senior Service** – All Welcome to attend.

**What questions do you have about being a disciple of Jesus?** What does it mean to be a member of the church? I know there are people out there who are interested in exploring these questions so Gord is inviting us to get together and explore them together with the aim of welcoming new members and/or renewing our faith promises in the spring, possibly on Easter Sunday. Let Gord know if you are interested and what day of the week would work best for us to get together.

#### **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.

**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?

**Newsletter Editor & Contributors Needed!** Are you gifted in putting words and pictures together? We're looking for a Newsletter Editor for 2025 to share all the exciting events, activities, and goings-on for St. Paul's United Church. You'll work closely with our Communications Team, who are ready to support you every step of the way!

If you're interested or would like more details, please contact Carla in the church office.

Going to an event? We would also love people to contribute photos and/or individual write ups! Share them with us at [communications@stpaulsuc.ca](mailto:communications@stpaulsuc.ca)

**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/>

#### **PowerPoint Tech Help Needed!**

Do you enjoy technology or want to lend a helping hand on Sunday mornings? We're looking for volunteers to assist with running the PowerPoint slides during our worship services.

- **No experience necessary** – we'll provide all the training you need!
- A great way to serve and be part of our worship team.
- Perfect for teens, adults, or anyone eager to help.

**Interested?** Contact the Church office - Thank you for considering this opportunity to support our church community!

## Financial Donations

Interac e-Transfer is a simple, secure way to give directly to St. Paul's United Church.

- **Email for e-Transfers:** [stpaulsucgp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsucgp@gmail.com)
- **Note Field:** Indicate your envelope number (if applicable) and the fund(s) your donation supports. For example:
  - \$25 GF (General Fund)
  - \$50 MS (Mission and Service)
  - \$25 OU (Outreach)

*Donations without a fund code will default to the General Fund.*

### Other Ways to Give:

- **Offering Envelopes:** Contact Carla for envelopes to ensure your donations are receipted.
- **PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance):** Sign up or adjust your giving anytime by contacting Carla.
- **Canada Helps:** Donate online at [Canada Helps](#) (*Receipts issued by Canada Helps*).

### **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!.