

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**  
**March 2, 2025**

*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 Open Wide the Church's Door (vss 1, 3, 5) (1L)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine! Your light has come!

**Thanks be to God!**

In companionship with Jesus along the Way, we are transfigured.

**Hallelujah! Amen!**

Bathed in the light of Christ, we yearn for ever-deeper connection:

**a communion rooted in love,  
braided together around the table,  
nourished by the wine of self-giving.**

Glory to God!

**Glory to God!**

(Written by Gord Dunbar <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)

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 you bring us together in this place,

**we come to be fed, to be renewed, to seek understanding.**

God you challenge us in this place,

**we embrace the challenge, trusting that through challenge we grow in faith.**

God you are revealed in this place,

**sometimes in shining glory, sometimes in tears and struggle.**

God as we worship in this place,

**refresh, renew, and challenge us so that we would see your awesomeness.**

We pray in Jesus' name,

**as we strive to walk the path of discipleship. Amen**

Gathering Hymn VU104 We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding (1L)

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

### A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Celebration of Communion

(adapted from the 2016 Stewardship resource *Called to be Church*)

Come, all you who are loved by God,  
come to the table of the Lord,  
come and empty your hearts in service,  
so they may be filled again.

**Yes, generous God, our hearts truly are glad,  
and we are filled with gratitude,  
because in your great love you do not abandon us,  
but in Jesus, child of salt and light, you proclaim your love.**

And making us bearers of your light,  
you come to restore us and give new life.  
And all who are frightened in the shadows,  
all who feel used up and lost,  
all who are sick and broken,  
are blessed at this table, and made to shine,  
bringing out the God-colours of this world.

#### **We remember the way that Jesus showed us his love:**

On the evening before he died,  
he had supper with his friends.  
During the meal, he took the loaf of bread, gave thanks for it,  
broke it, and then passed it around with these words:  
**This is my body, broken for you. Eat this and remember me.**

And after the meal, he took the cup of wine,  
gave thanks for it, and then passed it around with these words:  
**This is my blood, shed for you. Drink this and remember me.**

Here, at the Table of grace, the Holy Spirit proclaims life,  
transforming these simple gifts and the people gathered in this place.

**As we taste the hope in this broken bread,  
we go to be salt of the earth.  
As we are filled with this cup,  
we would be light to the world.**

And so every time we eat bread like this,  
and every time we drink wine like this,  
**We remember Jesus and his everlasting love.**

And now, as the Beloved children of a loving Parent, we say together the words Jesus taught his friends:  
**Our Father, who art in heaven...**

## THE MEAL IS SHARED

The Bread we break is the Bread of Life

The Cup we share is the Cup of Promise

These are gifts from God, to be shared with God's people

**Thanks be to God!**

## PRAYER FOLLOWING THE MEAL

God you call and challenge us to be salt and light in the world.

**May the sharing of this meal, and the fellowship with these brothers and sisters, strengthen us in body and soul.**

**May we who have broken bread together be strengthened in our resolve to remain salty. May we as a gathered community of faith be emboldened to let your light shine through us for all to see.**

And when we leave this place of worship.

**Help us continue to add taste to a bland world, to bring light to the darkness.**

**Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Exodus 34:29-35

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

SERMON *See Through the Veil*

## 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 MV147 God Help Us to Treasure (1L)

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

### THE OFFERING

Mission & Service Story *Thank You St. Paul's Volunteers!*

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication *Take My Gifts* (vss 1,3)(1L)

Hymn VU102 Jesus on the Mountain Peak (1L)

## COMMISSIONING

We have been gathered within Holy Presence, bathed in the light of God's love.

Now we go into the shadowed places where fears and doubts still threaten.

**May the words we have received, the songs we have sung, and the prayers we have offered not be left behind but be carried with us.**

**May we be transformed and be agents of God's transformation in the world. Amen.**

(Written by John Moses <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)

Go with God, who is revealed in glory and in gentle light, and in shadow.

**May we have eyes to see and hear God wherever we go.**

SUNG BENEDICTION: I Wish You the Blessing (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](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

**"Your Giving Matters"** –Revenue for local expenses in the week ending February 23rd is \$6568 (receipted offerings and rent). We need \$5,481 per week to meet the budget. (total 2025 budget divided by 52). Please pick up a copy of the Annual Narrative Report for 2024 and read about the total stewardship of St. Paul's. It's been a good year! Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team.

**The Forbes Presbyterian Church** will be hosting the service for the **World Day of Prayer** on **Friday, March 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM**, with snacks and fellowship to follow afterward. The service will include participation from various churches in our city.

**"I Made You Wonderful"** was prepared by the **World Day of Prayer Committee (WDP) of the Cook Islands** for the 2025 Annual Celebration worship service. It is based on **Psalm 139:14**:  
*"I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."*



**St. Paul's is again privileged to host the U of A Mixed Chorus and Handbell Choir on Tuesday evening, April 29th.** We have hosted these choirs several times and their concerts are always inspirational and very enjoyable.

We will be responsible for hosting approximately 50 students, providing supper Tuesday night, billeting, and a bag lunch for Wednesday.

Further details will be shared closer to the event, but please mark it on your calendar to help out with billeting or food if you can, and come to the concert - spread the word and bring a friend!

## 📌 FundScrip Order Announcement 📌

We're placing another **FundScrip** order! 🎉

Order forms are now available for pick-up in the foyer.

All orders must be submitted by **Saturday, March 30th, at 5 PM.**

Thank you for your support! 🙏 If you have any questions, please reach out.

**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.

Cancelled: "watch party" for CBC's 5th Estate program "Shadow War on Libraries"

We encourage everyone to watch the program (for free) at:

<https://www.cbc.ca/newsinteractives/features/a-shadow-war-on-libraries>

If you are interested in conversation about the program and how we can support our local libraries, please let Carla know and she'll pass your name onto St. Paul's Social Justice and Affirming/Outreach Ministry team.

### Coming Up This Week

**Sun., March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7:00 pm – Handbell Practice**

**Sun., March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Annual General Meeting – After Worship**

**Tue., March 4<sup>th</sup> – CANCELED – See you next week! Bible Study on Zoom** — The link and scriptures will be sent out on Tuesdays morning.

**Tues., March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – CGIT / Explorers**

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

**Thu., March 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 pm - Lent/Easter Choir** . Come join us and add extra meaning to your Easter season worship!

**Sun., March 9<sup>th</sup> – Alan Stebbing Leading Worship**

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

**Fri., March 14<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 pm –**

**🍕🍷 PIE Day Celebration! 🌈**

**What: PIE Day Celebration**

**PIE** stands for being **Public, Explicit, and Intentional** in our affirmation and support of **2SLGBTQIA+ persons and community.**

**Pizza Pie and refreshments will be provided!**

📍 **Where:** St. Paul's United Church, Grande Prairie  
(Friendship Room – Use Northwest Door)

**Hosted by:** Social Justice and Affirming Ministry Team, St. Paul's United Church

**Sun., March 30<sup>th</sup> – Fundscrip Orders Due Today!**

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

**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!

### **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.

### **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!.



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED**  
— C H U R C H —

