

February 2, 2025 4th after Epiphany.

Thought to ponder: *"As the light grows longer the cold grows stronger. If Candlemas be fair and bright Winter will have another flight. If Candlemas be cloud and snow Winter will be gone and not come again"* -Scottish poem precursor to groundhog day tradition.

Prelude: My Life Is in You Lord

**My life is in You, Lord,
my strength is in You Lord
My hope is in You, Lord,
in You, it's in You.
My life is in You, Lord,
my strength is in You Lord
My hope is in You, Lord,
in You, it's in You.**

**I will praise You
with all of my life
I will praise You
with all of my strength
With all of my life,
with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in You.**

**My life is in You, Lord,
my strength is in You Lord
My hope is in You, Lord,
in You, it's in You.
In You, in You, in You, in You.**

Welcome

**Announcements, Life & Work of the Church
Acknowledgement of the Territories**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: May the peace of Christ be with you

All: And also with you

Call to Worship:

One: Love is not an emotion.

All: Love is a decision, made continually.

One: Love had the first word, in creating all things,

All: And love will have the last word, in fulfilling all things. We praise the power of God's love today!

Hymn: MV #1 Let Us Build a House

Let us build a house where love can dwell

And all can safely live,

A place where saints and children tell

How hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,

Rock of faith and vault of grace;

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome,

All are welcome,

All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,

And words are strong and true,

Where all God's children dare to seek

To dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness

And as symbol of God's grace;

Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain

Let us build a house where love is found
 In water, wine and wheat:
 A banquet hall on holy ground,
 Where peace and justice meet.
 Here the love of God through Jesus,
 Is revealed in time and space;
 As we share in Christ the feast that frees us

Refrain

Let us build a house where hands will reach
 Beyond the wood and stone
 To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
 And live the Word they've known.
 Here the outcast and the stranger
 Bear the image of God's face;
 Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain

Let us build a house where all are named,
 Their songs and visions heard
 And loved and treasured,
 taught and claimed as words
 within the Word.
 Built of tears and cries and laughter,
 Prayers of faith and songs of grace;
 Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain

Words and Music: Marty Haugen reprinted under OneLicense A725110

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Gathering Prayer

**God of light and life, your light shines
 into our lives through your Son, Jesus.
 In the warmth of that light, we feel
 Your Spirit strengthen us to face**

whatever this year will bring to us. And so we come to praise you for your love and grace which transforms our days and our lives, and for your wisdom which enlightens truth for our times. Shine through us, we pray, so that we may bear the light of Love in this world. Amen

Time for All Ages: Sam, Phil, Chuck, & Jimmy

Hymn: VU #595 We Are Pilgrims

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
Fellow travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.**

**Sister, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
Till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

Words and Music: Richard Gillard reprinted under OneLicense A725110

Prayer of Illumination:

Scripture

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Before you were formed in the
womb, I set you apart.

Psalms 71:1-6 God is our fortress and sheltering rock.

1 Corinthians 13 Love is patient and kind.

Luke 4:21-30 Jesus is driven out of Nazareth.

Ministry of Music: Let Your Light Shine

Reflection: From Here?

Hymn: VU #670 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light:

**Take my hand, precious Lord,
lead me home.**

When my way grows drear,
 Precious Lord, linger near,
 When my life is almost gone,
 Hear my cry, hear my call,
 Hold my hand lest I fall:
**Take my hand, precious Lord,
 lead me home.**

When the darkness appears,
 And the night draws near,
 And the day is past and gone,
 At the river I stand,
 Guide my feet, hold my hand:
**Take my hand, precious Lord,
 lead me home.**

Words: Thomas A. Dorsey 1932 reprinted under OneLicense A725110

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom
 come, thy will be done on earth as it is
 in heaven. Give us this day our daily
 bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass
 against us; and lead us not into
 temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the
 power, and the glory, for ever and
 ever. Amen.**

Invitation to offering:

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious and loving God, receive our gifts of self and substance. They have belonged to you since our very beginning. We give them freely, joyfully, prayerfully. With them we praise you. With them we celebrate the great power that is love— a love that abides always, a love that makes us whole. Amen

Hymn: VU# 675 Will Your Anchor Hold

Will your anchor hold
in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold
their wings of strife,
When the strong tides lift
and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?
**We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure
while the billows roll,
Fastened to the rock
which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep
in the Saviour's love!**
It will surely hold in the straits of fear,
When the breakers tell
that the reef is near;
Though the tempest rave
and the wild winds blow,
Not an angry wave
shall our bark o'erflow.

Refrain

It will surely hold
 in the floods of death,
 When the waters cold
 chill our latest breath;
 On the rising tide it can never fail
 While our hopes abide within the veil.

Refrain

When our eyes behold,
 through the gathering night,
 The city of gold, our harbour bright,
 We shall anchor fast
 by the heavenly shore,
 With the storms all past for evermore.

Refrain

Words & Music: Abel Nkuinji reprinted under OneLicense A725110

Benediction:

**Sung Benediction: MV #211 Go Now in Peace
 Guided by the Light**

**Go now in peace
 guided by the light of Christ,
 so you may be nourished
 by the Word of life.**

**Go now in peace
 guided by the light of Christ,
 so you may be nourished
 by the Word of life.**



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

4 Morrison Avenue, Sussex, N.B. E4E 1P5

Phone: 506-432-1114 Email:

stpaulsunitedsussex@rogers.com

Minister: Rev. Jennifer Brown

ministerstpaulsucc@gmail.com

506-612-0543 or 506-756-3340

Director of Music - Karen Gallagher

Choir Director - Mary Lea Stafford

Office Administrator – Al Brown Custodian – Marty Adair

Treasurer – Linda McBride treasurerstpaulsucc1@gmail.com

Church Family Ministry Team – Coleen Corbett, Lisa Folkins,
Shari Brennan

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9:30 – 3:00

Announcements

February 2nd, 2025 4th after Epiphany

Kim and Linda, the daughters of the late Verna Webb, would like to extend thanks to the Ladies groups, former UCW, for their representation at her celebration of life, to Karen and the choir for leading the hymns with Bobby Johnson and Allison Inch, music that she missed so much. Thank you to all who made donations or sent cards in memory of Verna. She was honoured to be a member of St. Paul's since 1959. Again, thank you to all.

Reader for this week: Lee McBride

Reader for next week: Lisa Folkins

Greeter this week: Donna Adair

Greeter next week: Gord and Karen

Tellers this week: John and Muriel

Tellers next week: Bonnie and Wendy.

A/V this week: Lloyd

A/V next week: John

Sunday 9:30 Coffee Time via Zoom
10:00 Sunday Service

Tuesday 6:30 Board meeting

Wednesday 2:30 GPS
6:00 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 2:00 Circle of Friendship

Next Sunday 9:30 Coffee Time via Zoom
10:00 Sunday Service via
Facebook and Zoom

Valentine Social after the service.

Coldest night of the year Support the sharing club. If you are interested in forming a team to represent St. Paul's, there is a sign up sheet with more info in the narthex or contact the office.

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper If you are interested in forming a team to help prepare a pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the office.

Good News and Caring Corner: If you have some good news you want shared with the congregation, let us know and we'll pass it on. If there is someone you think should have a card from the caring corner for whatever reason, please see the attendant in the corner, or call the office.

Offering Envelopes are available at the office or on the table in the entryway. If you are using them for the first time, be sure to have your name and address on the first one so we can get you your tax receipt at the end of the year.

Grocery Cards: It's an easy fundraiser as we all

buy groceries so why not do it via grocery cards as it results in income for the church. We will be available (as we are able) before and after church for you to purchase cards. As well, cards are available for purchase in the office during regular business hours.

M&P: The M&P committee exists as the supervisory committee for staff at St. Paul's. If you have a compliment or complaint that you wish to have discussed, please submit it in writing to the M&P committee by putting it in a sealed envelope and leaving it in their mailbox. The M&P committee: Shirley Keith, Tom Belyea, Judy Candy, Cheryl Hughes, Bob Ness, Denise Murphy

Contact information: Please keep your contact information and addresses updated so we can get information out to you. An inaccurate address may lead to delays for tax receipts. Thanks.

A reminder that you may be on our video presentation as we are broadcasting our services on Facebook.

Join in or listen to any of the Zoom calls via Internet using the link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/179750852?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/179750852?pwd=7IAYtPHcGTE)

[pwd=7IAYtPHcGTE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/179750852?pwd=7IAYtPHcGTE)

If you know of anyone needing help, please contact the office or Rev. Jenn Brown