



St. Paul's Anglican Church

See, I am about to do a new thing... Isaiah 43:1

A NEW COVENANT FOR YOU:

Read *1 Samuel 20:11-17*.

Think about the characteristics of really close friendship.

Have you ever covenanted with someone? Have you ever come together with a friend where you each promised something? These promises require a mutual personal commitment to the relationship.

Read in *1 Samuel* the story about Jonathan covenanting with David. Jonathan loved David as he loved his own soul. He loved David so much that he took an oath of loyalty to him rather than to Saul, his own father and king. Three chapters later in *1 Samuel 23:16-18*, Jonathan went and strengthened David in the Lord during a very difficult time. This is a beautiful example of covenant relationship.

Do you have anyone in your life who encourages you in your Christian faith?

How do you offer this to others?



As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, it is a great time to ponder that Jesus came to offer each one of us a new covenant with God through him. As we think of and celebrate Jesus' birth and arrival, be reminded of why he came. Let Jonathan and David's covenant remind you that Jesus came to establish a new covenant between you and God. God initiated this for all of us and offers it freely. What is our end of the deal? Simply to receive it. It is almost too hard to believe the love that God has for us; he sent his very own son, Jesus, to the earth to establish this covenant relationship with us.

God wants to remind you today that he is there for you. He will never break his covenant with you, and he will never leave or walk away from you -- have hope! If you find yourself doubting this, ask God where in your life you need to be reminded of his covenant with you. Receive it and let it wash into those places where broken covenants with others have left you feeling hurt, betrayed and wounded.

Rest assured, his covenant is everlasting.

- *A devotional written by Lori Nickel in a collection called "Jesus Messiah" (MB Seminary 2017)*

Music for HEARING, HEALING, and HOPE:

As part of our 160th Anniversary, a musical fundraiser was held on Saturday, September 28. In keeping with our anniversary theme *“Called to Serve in This Place for 160 Years”*, all proceeds raised from the free will offering were given to the Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council, to assist in financing the chaplains working in all hospitals of Grey and Bruce. Talented choirs, soloists and instrumentalists from our wide community were invited to participate. Chantry Singers, A Cappella Chamber Choir, Meghan and John DeJager, Brenda and Peter Dimoff, Janet Squire, Adrian Little, Mike Grace, and our own church choir participated in the evening. The newly-configured choir area worked very well in accommodating the various performing groups, with the removable choir seating and three metal risers stored at St. Paul’s, allowing over 80 people to perform the massed finale selection, Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen. Rev. Carrie welcomed the audience, and Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski acted as master of ceremonies. The amazing musical evening concluded with coffee and dessert in Bevan Hall. Several members of the congregation offered their support in providing dessert, assisting with setup, serving and tear down. \$1445 was raised for the Chaplaincy Council from the near-capacity audience.

The 160th Anniversary Committee, (consisting of Brenda Dimoff, Peter Dimoff, Paul Dost, Anne Goar, Doug Goar, Rev. Carrie Irwin, Tony Marriott, Diana Tripp, Bert Tripp, Barb Willner) extend a huge vote of thanks to all who supported this endeavour!



160 Anniversary Challenge:

Our 160th Anniversary Challenge was VERY successful. The parishioners of St. Paul’s managed to reach the 160 item target 3 times to date and are working on the fourth! Over 500 food items have been delivered to the local Salvation Army, for use by those in need.

“Called to Serve in This Place for 160 Years”

Our Advent Journey: Are We There Yet?

First Sunday of Advent: PEACE

Our Advent journey begins with rules of the road. We are on the way to where God would have us be, and we're not there yet. But how shall we go? We shall go together, as one body, living and trusting in one another. We shall go as this community of faith, walking side by side, and leaning into the grace of God every step of the way. We shall go in **PEACE**. Isaiah says that in days to come, the nations shall stream to the mountain of the Lord, and there we will beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks; there, we will learn war no more. God will teach us **PEACE**.



Second Sunday of Advent: HOPE



Every journey faces the unknown. And anxiety can sometimes overwhelm us. There is much to do: our lists are long; our calendars are filled up; we worry that something will go wrong, or we won't end up in the right place or take the right route. Getting lost is a real possibility on a journey. And yet, we claim **HOPE** for the journey, because we follow the one who will travel with us and sustain us on the way. Isaiah says that there is one who is to come who will be the fulfillment of all our **HOPE**. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on this one, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. We place our **HOPE** in this one.

Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

Sometimes on our journey, our feet get heavy, our shoulders feel burdened, and our hearts seem slow. Sometimes in the preparation, the busyness overwhelms us, and we get lost in the doing and the planning and the running. And what we lose is a sense of why. Why do we do all of this? Why is this journey necessary? And the answer is simple: for the **JOY** of it. We forget the **JOY** when we get caught up in the to-do lists. We forget the **JOY** when we worry more about how things look than connecting with others. Matthew tells us that when John asked if Jesus was the one to come, Jesus responded by saying look around you. Our call in this Advent journey is to look around us to see the one who comes already at work among us and to celebrate that presence with **JOY**.



Fourth Sunday of Advent: TRUST

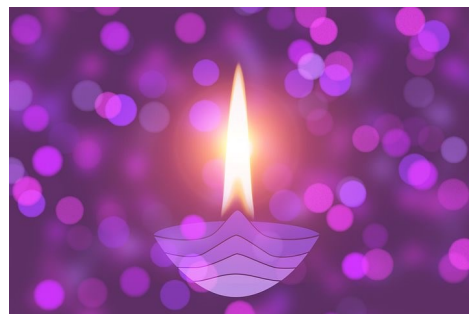


One thing we have learned on our Advent journey is that it is better not to go alone. We live in a do-it-yourself culture that celebrates the individual. But faith is not something that we can do on our own. We need companions on the journey; we need others to support us and strengthen us and encourage us. We put our journey in the hands of many people around us; and although it is a risk, we are better for it. We learn to **TRUST** that someone has our back, as we make this journey of faith. Matthew reminds us that when God chose to come to earth the first time, God chose to **TRUST** in people to help make it happen. God **TRUSTED** in Mary, and

God **TRUSTED** in Joseph. In turn, we **TRUST** in God to be faithful to the promise and to sustain us through many others as we continue our journey of faith.

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, that God may teach us the ways of **PEACE, HOPE, JOY, TRUST and LOVE**.

www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2019



Happenings Around St. Paul's:

Thanksgiving



Halloween
All Saints
All Souls

ACW Turkey Dinner



Mark Your Calendars:

Plan to join your congregational family for any of the multiple events scheduled at St. Paul's!

Every Tuesday: Morning Prayer at 10:15, followed by coffee and bible study /reflection on the following Sunday's readings, seeking meaning for our lives.

ACW: 1st Tuesday of the month at 1:30 PM

Men's Breakfast: 3rd Sat. of the month at 8 AM

Choir rehearsal: Weekly on Sunday at 12:30 PM

Ecumenical Taize service: Monthly, rotating from church to church - Sunday, Dec 22 at St. Paul's

Yoga - exercises for Seniors (including chair yoga) - every Tuesday (Jan - Mar) from 10 - 11 AM

Beat the Winter Blues with Arts and Crafts at St. Paul's—beginning in January—watch for details!

See the weekly bulletin insert and monthly calendar for more details of life at St. Paul's.

Our Facebook page—SaugeenShoresAnglican

Our Website: www.BestEverAnglicans.com



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Holy
Night!

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 248 High Street, Southampton, ON 519-797-2984

Ordinary people . . . Loved by God, Seeking Christ, Moved by the Holy Spirit.

“Called to Serve in This Place for 160 Years”