

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"We Shine For All Through Christ"
St. Marys, Ohio

January 14, 2024 **Second Sunday after Epiphany** **10:30 a.m.**

Order of Service

As we transition from the Season of Christmas to the Season of Ordinary Time, today's liturgy reminds us of the importance our own baptism. We are not called to be mere spectators of the life in the Church, rather, we too, are called to be God's beloved daughters and sons.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

PRELUDE	“For Me to Live Is Jesus”	Johann Pachelbel
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*** Call to Worship** (Inspired by Isaiah 43:2)

Leader: When we pass through the waters...

PEOPLE: God is there with us.

Leader: When we suffer and feel hopeless...

PEOPLE: God is there with us.

Leader: When we are joyful and celebratory...

PEOPLE: God is there with us.

Leader: Whether we feel triumphant or defeated...

PEOPLE: God is always with us.

Leader: Come, let us worship together with Emmanuel, God with us.

***Unison Prayer and The Lord's Prayer** (using debts and debtors)

God of grace and glory, you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ who invites us to pray together...

***HYMN #502** “Be Thou My Vision”

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements

Joys and Concerns of our Church Family

Anniversaries

ON THE STEPS WITH THE CHILDREN

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Offer God's peace to those nearby

***HYMN # 492** “Spirit of the Living God”

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION IN PREPARATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

Leader: God, you have given each of us many gifts,

PEOPLE: but sometimes we cannot recognize what gift we have to share, so we hide it under a bushel.

Leader: God, you remind us that all gifts are needed,

PEOPLE: but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced that some gifts are more special than others.

Leader: God, you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body,

PEOPLE: but sometimes we decide that membership in the body is limited by our understandings.

Leader: God, for the times we have ignored or mislabeled Your gifts, for those times we have cut another off from the body,

PEOPLE: We offer words of repentance, we ask for forgiveness and grace

...time of silent prayer.....a time of offering our gifts

***OFFERTORY** “Blessed Quietness” Lani Smith

*DOXOLOGY

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE/FORGIVENESS**

Leader: God is the giver of MANY gifts. God is the Creator of the ONE body. God is slow to anger and quick to forgive. God helps us to share and honour the gifts of all, God helps us to heal the wounds and reunite the body. We are forgiven, loved, and accepted.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC “Angels We Have Heard On High” Carol Gehres

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 43: 1-4

THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 3:15-22

SERMON **“A Baptism With Fire”** **Rev. Rhonda Hainer**

***HYMN # 140** "Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Joyful Rondo" John S. Dixon

*Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spiritDepart to serve

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email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: rhainer@bright.net and cell phone number: (563) 210-3508
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email for Christian Education: jnjl2021@gmail.com
email for media: spmedia@bright.net

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss,
Maddy Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director	Children's Ministry Coordinators
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and	Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music	Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
Jim Huckemeyer, Multi-Media	Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodians
Rev. Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary	

LiturgistJane Nuss
AcolytesConfirmands
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, January 7, 2024
Current - \$4,326.00 / Mission - 365.00
Attendance – 87

PRAYER CANDLES

If you would like someone to light a candle for you, place a card in the basket (located in the back center of the sanctuary), and a designated helper will light a candle for you.

REMEMBER: Don't forget to sign up to be a liturgist and to provide flowers. The sign-up charts are on the bulletin board by the Media Center in the north corner of the Sanctuary.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio
January 14, 2023

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."



TODAY: Join us for our "Monthly Membership Opportunity" today at 11:45 am(time approximate) following the 10:30 amWorship Service.

NEW HOURS: There are new **temporary** office hours. The office will be closed to the public on Mondays and Fridays. Hours for Tuesday through Thursday are 9-12 and 1-3.

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, January 15 at 6 pm in Heritage Hall. Discussion of the survey data will be discussed.

HISTORY CORNER *The Evening Leader* is beginning a new column Friday called History Corner. This column will start with the histories of St. Marys churches and **St. Paul's is the first installment!** Check out the January 12 (this past Friday's) edition, and stay tuned to future Fridays to see our History Corner article.

COLLEGE GRANTS: It's that time of year again when students can apply for College Grants at St. Paul's UCC. If interested, please stop by the Chapel near the sanctuary and pick up a form off the round table there. The deadline to return to the office is April 1,2024.

BACK BAY MISSION GROUP will have an orientation meeting on Wednesday, January 17 from 7-8:30 pm. This meeting will be in the Sanctuary.

AGAPE TOILET PAPER MISSION: Let's get rolling and collect toilet paper rolls in the Hospitality Room. Rolls can also be purchased by giving donations to Janet Gibson, Terri Kerns or the office. We will be glad to help out. So, let's just keep the paper rolling. Thank you for your past and present support on this project.

WELCOME! *St. Paul's strives to create a faith community where ALL God's people are welcome to come and explore God's presence in the world. If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are here. If you are a returning visitor, **welcome back!** Please complete the Welcome card located in the pew pocket in front of you and place it in the offering plate. Should you have a prayer request, please complete the Prayer card and place in the offering plate.*

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE
*Don't forget that we now have online giving! It is available now by downloading Vanco Payment Solutions onto your mobile device by going to the app store or Google Play and search for **'Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement'**. The download is free. We also have a button on our website that will also take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!*

- PRAYER REQUESTS**
- Please keep the following people in your prayers: the Loretta Deitsch family, Beverly Miller, LeRoy Kogge, Janet Keller, John Long, Kathy Raymond, Evelyn Horner, and a close friend of Andrea Spencer's. Also, pray for all of our military.
 - Remember to pray for our shut-ins and for their caregivers that take care of them.
 - All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com, or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.
 - We **ALWAYS** need liturgists and volunteers to bring flowers for the altar. The **2024 Altar Flower Chart, and the Liturgist sign-up sheet** are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.

Have you checked out our church website? www.stpaulsuccsm.com



Jesus' Baptism

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

'u' **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** - Currently, while our nursery is not staffed during worship, parents are welcome to use the nursery and remain with your child. Children 1st Grade and older need to remain in the church. Thank you for your understanding.

'u' **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** restroom is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room, and it also contains a baby changing table.

'u' ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES - Available if needed (consult an usher).

'u' **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** - Our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on TSC cable - **Digital channel 1** or **non-digital channel 2**, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. This is now shown LIVE on Sundays and shown a day later on Mondays.

u **WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET-** If you do not have TSC cable, you can watch our service on our church web page at www.spuccsm.com or on YouTube.

'u' **EMERGENCY AED** - There is an emergency AED Unit located on the wall behind the soundboard in the Sanctuary.

RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN - On the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

Have you checked out our church website? www.stpaulsuccsm.com

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S
Handicap Accessible and Live Streamed

Today	9:15 am	Sunday School/ Confirmation/ Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Monday		Martin Luther <u>King Day</u>
		Church Office closed.
	6:00 pm	Strategic Planning Committee meeting
Wednesday	9:00am	Quilters
	7-8:30 pm	Back Bay Mission Orientation meeting, Sanctuary
Thursday	1:30 pm	HEAL, located in the Chapel
	4:30-5:15 pm	Community Meal, carry-out only
Friday	9am	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES
Next Sun.	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. David Hainer

Pastor Rhonda is on vacation January 19-26. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Jeanette Tangeman at 419-234-7935.

E	G	Y	P	T	E	V	R	E	K	U	L	E		
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P	U	K	P	Y	L	0	H	H	A	I	S	S	E	M
H	E	R	0	D	I	A	S	R	T	C	R	D	R	D

Luke	John	baptise	Egypt
Herrod	praying	spirit	Beloved
Son	expectation	holy	rebuke
water	dove	Heaven	Holy Lord
sandal	dunk	pleased	Isaiah
Herodias	Messiah		

Liturgist Bible Readings

Isaiah 43: 1-4

¹But now thus says the LORD,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
 and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the LORD your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴Because you are precious in my sight
 and honored and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
 nations in exchange for your life.

Luke 3: 15-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,^[a] ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

The Baptism of Jesus

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved;^[c] with you I am well pleased."^[d]