

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

**January 21, 2024**                      **Third Sunday after Epiphany**                      **10:30 a.m.**

**Order of Service**

*Welcome to our Worship Service today. Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God.*

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CHIMES**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**                      "On Eagle's Wings"                      Carol Tornquist

- \* CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Matthew 22:15-22)  
Leader: The earth has its kings, but God is ruler of all.  
**People: Praise God above all, the giver of life!**  
Leader: The mountains may tremble, the oceans may roar,  
**People: but God's presence is more powerful than the earth itself.**  
Leader: Come into God's presence, for God is among us now.  
**People: O God, show us your glory; we seek your ways.**  
Leader: Come to the Rock, the God of life, for God is present now.

- \* UNISON PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER** (using debts and debtors)  
Loving, living God, be among us now. Show us your ways. Guide our steps. Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful giving. Help us hear your words, challenging us to give you all the things that are yours. Help us remember that all we are and all we have are gifts from you, gifts to be shared in service and love. Holy One among us, help us be a holy people who receive your word with joy and live your message with love. Hear us now as we continue to pray, Our Father.....

- \* HYMN #438** "On Eagle's Wings"

**WE OPEN UP TO GOD**

**CELEBRATING COMMUNITY**

Announcements  
Joys and Concerns of our Church Family

- \* PASSING OF THE PEACE** (Offer God's peace to those nearby)  
Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

- \* HYMN #591** "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

**OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD** "Lord I Lift Your Name on High" Carol Tomquist  
**\* DOXOLOGY**  
**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**GOD SPEAKS TO US**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 32:22-32 Jacob Wrestles at Peniel

- \* HYMN #347** "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

**SERMON** "When the Choice is Between Caesar and God" Rev. David Hainer  
(Matthew 22:15-22)

**WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE**

**\* HYMN** (see insert) " This is My Song "  
**\* BENEDICTION**  
**POSTLUDE** " Take the Name of Jesus with You" Roger House

\*Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spirit

## ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St.  
St. Marys, OH 45885  
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Prayer Request Email (Carol Schmidt): [cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com](mailto:cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com)  
Christian Education Email: [jnl2021@gmail.com](mailto:jnl2021@gmail.com)  
Media Email: [spmedia@bright.net](mailto:spmedia@bright.net)

**Back Bay Missionary:** Rev. Jeanette Tangeman  
**Children's Ministry:** Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss  
**Children's Music:** Maddy Frankenhauser  
**Youth Director:** Nick Frankenhauser  
**Confirmation:** Amy Keller  
**Custodians:** Brad and Nam Gehrlich  
**Missionaries:** All Members of our Congregation

**Audio and Video:** Rich Spencer  
**Multi-Media:** Jim Huckemeyer  
**Pianist/Music Coordinator:** Becky Anderson  
**Pianist:** Cynthia Hanover  
**Pianist:** Kathlene Larson  
**Organist:** Ann Vogel  
**Organist:** Andrea Spencer

**Liturgist:**  
**Acolytes:** Confirmands

***Our Giving to God, January 14, 2024***  
***Current - \$ 2,420.00/ Mission - \$180.00***  
***Attendance – 42***

### **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.



## ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio  
January 21, 2024

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



## Ash Wednesday Worship Service February 14<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m.

Plan now to attend the service of worship offered for Ash Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. **This will be a traditional worship service that will include a message by Pastor Rhonda and both the imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.**

### Helping Each other Adjust to Loss

We can all agree this has been a difficult year, full of challenges and many losses. It has been especially painful for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. HEAL is the St. Paul's grief support group led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, who is trained to assist persons in times of loss, struggle, or crisis. HEAL will meet in the Chapel adjacent to the sanctuary on February 15, at 1:30 p.m., and is open for anyone in our community who is seeking comfort, clarity, hope for a path forward.

**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!** 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.

**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 JOINT TOWNSHIP DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY** dues are now being collected. All are welcome to belong and support our local hospital. Dues are \$15 and checks should be made out to JTDMH Auxiliary. Money or check should be given to Ann Vogel by February 18.

**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 in your prayers: Beverly Miller, LeRoy Kogge, Janet Keller, John Long, Kathy Raymond, Evelyn Horner and a close friend of Andrea Spencer.
- Bernie Schroer is recuperating at home.
- Sharon Sullivan is recuperating at home.
- Remember to pray for our shut-ins and the caregivers who take care of them.
- All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: [cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com](mailto: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 in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.

**The Organ Committee**, along with the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, have planned a concert to be held on Sunday, February 4, at 3 p.m., in our Sanctuary. Community members will be performing some outstanding and special numbers. A free-will offering will be taken for the organ fund. You will not want to miss this concert, and you will not be disappointed!

Have you checked out our church website? [www.stpaulsuccsm.com](http://www.stpaulsuccsm.com)

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

- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** restroom is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room, and it also contains a baby changing table.
- ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - Available if needed (consult an usher).
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **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](http://www.spuccsm.com) or on YouTube.
- ✚ **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!

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

Today	9:15 am 10:30 am	Sunday School / Confirmation / Adult Forum Worship with Rev. David Hainer
Monday		<b><u>Church Office closed</u></b>
Thursday	4:30-5:15 pm	Community Meal, carry-out only
Friday		<b><u>Church Office closed</u></b>
Next Sun.	9:15 am 10:30 am	Sunday School / Confirmation / Adult Forum 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.**