

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

<b>January 1, 2023</b>	<b>Epiphany</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
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## Order of Service

Throughout the world, Christians celebrate Epiphany, which means Manifestation, when The Magi visited the child Jesus and showed how God's gift of the Good News is for all people, (Jews and Gentiles). Epiphany celebrates God revealing Godself to the world. All means All.

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

## CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

**WELCOME** *(If you are new among us today, please fill in the Welcome card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate.)*

<b>PRELUDE</b>	<i>“The Opening Year”</i>	Lani Smith
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**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Arise, shine, for the light has come.

**People: Light radiates.**

**Leader:** Lift up your eyes and look around. See how light shines here in your sons and daughters.

**People:** Light reflects the glory of God.

Leader: Look around.

**People:** Our hearts thrill and rejoice. God is here with us.

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Holy Mystery, you twinkle and shimmer like the stars in the heavens above, and it feels like anything could happen. We pause here with you, O Mystery, to contemplate the stars and to wonder what brought us here to this moment, this time, this place. Guide us with words that would give us meaning. Show us how your light reflects the truth of who we hope to be. There is so much possibility. Orient us with your radiance. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #229** "The First Noel" verses 1-5

## CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements	Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests	Birthdays

## \*THE APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the One Holy Universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI** *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen, Amen.*

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

**People:** And also with you.

**(People offer God's peace to those nearby with whatever you are comfortable with)**

## WE OPEN UP TO GOD

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (using debts and debtors)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD \*DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## “A Song in the New Year”

David Paxton

## GOD SPEAKS TO US

**THE PSALTER** Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

**THE GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 2:1-12

**HYMN #233** "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

**SERMON**                      "A Message for the New Year"                      Rev. Rhonda Hainer

## WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** (by Intinction)

**\*HYMN #218** "Go Tell It On The Mountain"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE**

\*POSTLUDE

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

“Auld Lang Syne”

.....Depart to serve

Traditional Tune

ST. PAUL’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: [rhainer@bright.net](mailto:rhainer@bright.net) and cell phone number: (563) 210-3508  
email for prayer team requests to Carol Schmidt: [cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com](mailto:cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com)  
email for Christian Education: [jnjl2021@gmail.com](mailto:jnjl2021@gmail.com)  
email for youth director: [youth.stpaulsucc@gmail.com](mailto:youth.stpaulsucc@gmail.com) email for media: [spmedia@bright.net](mailto:spmedia@bright.net)

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children’s Ministry Coordinators
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Madeline Frankenhauser, Children’s Music Director
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music	

Liturgist .....Ryen Chisholm  
Acolytes .....Middle School Youth  
Children’s offering.....Sunday School Youth  
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

***Our Giving to God, December 24, 2022***  
***Current - \$1271.50 / Mission - \$150.00 / Attendance – 140***

***Our Giving to God, December 25, 2022***  
***Current - \$1430.00 / Mission - \$115.00 / Attendance – 70***

***The altar flowers today***

***The loose offering today is designated to the Organ Fund.***  
***Next week, our loose offering is designated to Crossroad***

**SOMETHING NEW:** A prayer station of votive candles is located in the front of the sanctuary. You are invited to light a candle for a prayer of joy or concern, or in remembrance of someone. Our Thanks to Fred Scheer for constructing the wooden risers.

**ATTENTION:** Our home bound/shut-ins love to receive notes and cards. If you would like to send some cards to them, call or email the church office for a list of names and addresses!

MANY THANKS

TO KEVIN TURNER OF TURNER SNOW REMOVAL FOR CLEARING OUR PARKING LOT FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY SERVICES. YOUR CONTINUED SERVICES ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

ATTENTION, LADIES OF ST. PAUL’S

There will be a Ladies Luncheon at JT’s on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. All the ladies of the church are welcome. Please **RSVP to the church office or Jane Nuss by Noon on January 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Agape Ministries is in need of volunteers!** If you are interested, contact Kris Rasneor, Program Manager at Agape Ministries, 419-394-8700.

**Joint Township Memorial Hospital is in need of volunteers!** Grand Lake Health System is looking for volunteers. Various days and time available. Contact Denise Limbert at 419-394-3387, ext. 2808.

**Prayer and Care Ministry: Prayer Team:** Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in public worship screen unless specifically requested. Contact Carol Schmidt with a prayer request at [cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com](mailto:cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com) or the church office.

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**You are invited** to the Caregiving from the Heart Support Group held here at St. Paul’s on **January 9, 2023, at 7pm in the library**. This is a gathering for any caregivers (and others who are involved) whether you are doing it within your home, within your loved one’s home or if your loved one resides in a care facility. It will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman and will be a gathering to support each other, learn from each other, and find helpful resources. Any questions, please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935.

Liturgists Needed for 2023

We need liturgists for our upcoming worship services. Let your voice ring out ... as often as you like! Please contact Carolyn Garrison in the Church Office to volunteer.

Happy New Year!



AULD LANG SYNE  
BABY  
BALL  
BALLOONS  
CALENDAR  
CELEBRATION  
CHAMPAGNE  
CLOCK  
CONFETTI  
COUNTDOWN  
DANCING  
DECEMBER  
EVE

FATHER TIME  
FIRECRACKER  
FIRST  
FLUTE  
GAMES  
GOWN  
HAPPY  
HAT  
HOURGLASS  
INVITATION  
JANUARY  
KISS  
MIDNIGHT

MUSIC  
NOISE MAKER  
PARTY  
RESOLUTION  
SPARKLER  
STREAMER  
TIMES SQUARE  
TOAST  
TRADITION  
TUXEDO  
VOW  
YEAR

**WELCOME!** 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 back side 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: Ruth Knous, Chuck and Joyce Greenawalt, Carol Schmidt, Cheryl Kline, John Hall, Diana Prichard, Shirley Harold, John Long, and Vern Luedeke. Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
- Kelly Kill & her family. Kelly's sister, Jeanette Castello, and sister-in-law, Sandy Lemming, are experiencing significant health issues at this time.
- 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](mailto:cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com), or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.
- The **2023 Altar Flower Charts, and the Liturgist sign-up sheets** are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.
- **We need Liturgists!** Please take a moment to sign up (on the bulletin board by the soundboard) or call the church office to sign up. Thank you.

**DEADLINE**

**ANNUAL REPORTS FOR COMMITTEES, ETC.**

Carolyn will soon begin preparing the 2022 Annual Report. Please submit your report to her by **Tuesday, January 17th**. If you can type and send it by email, it is most helpful - she can cut and paste. If you have any questions, please give her a call in the church office.

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

- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** - For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery. **PLEASE NOTE** - Only Newborn to Kindergarten age children are permitted in the Nursery during our morning worship service to allow safety for the newborns and toddlers. 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**

Today	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer (No Sunday School)
Mon.		Church closed for the New Years holiday
Tues.	6:15 - 7:15pm	Bingo at Vancrest
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	6:00 pm	Personnel Mtg.
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer/Consistory Installation

**INSTALLATION OF 2023 CONSISTORY**

The 2023 Consistory will be installed during worship on **Sunday, January 8th**. All Elders, Deacons and Trustees are asked to attend the service that morning.

## Psalm 72:1-7

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

### Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King Of Solomon.

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to a king's son.  
<sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness  
and your poor with justice.  
<sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.  
<sup>5</sup> May he live<sup>[a]</sup> while the sun endures  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.  
<sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth.  
<sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

## Psalm 72:10-14

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

- <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
render him tribute;  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba  
bring gifts.  
<sup>11</sup> May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations give him service.  
<sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.  
<sup>13</sup> He has pity on the weak and the needy  
and saves the lives of the needy.  
<sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their life,  
and precious is their blood in his sight.

## Matthew 2:1-12

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

### The Visit of the Magi

<sup>2</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>[c]</sup> was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd<sup>[d]</sup> my people Israel.' "

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi<sup>[e]</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.