

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

**January 29, 2023** **Fourth Sunday After Epiphany** **10:30**

a.m.

***"Health and Human Service Sunday" \* 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 CALL US TO WORSHIP

**WELCOME** *(Here at St. Paul's we strive 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 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>	"Jesus Loves the Little Children"	arr. Heather Sorenson
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**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*UCC Worship Ways*)

Leader: O Foot Washing God, who bends down, who comes prepared with water and linens,  
All: **who first loved us so that we may know how to love, we gather here in your Spirit of service.**

Leader: You taught us how no one is greater than the other, no messenger outranks the sender.  
And so, we come to worship both as givers and receivers, the washers and the washed.

**All:** We unite at the basin and the table, finding the grace only you can give, to embolden us to go and do likewise.  
On this Health and Human Service Sunday, let us wrap our towels around our waists, ready to partake in communal care.

**Let us root ourselves in ritual, steadying us for the Good News at hand, and the sprouts of healing yet to come. Amen.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER** (*UCC Worship Ways*)

**Spirit of Extravagant Welcome, help us to invite all parts of ourselves into worship today. Guide us to see no stranger within us or around us as we care for our world as the Body of Christ. Help us to break down all barriers to belonging and the systems sustained by suffering and greed. For, in discipleship there is abundance through togetherness and your acceptance of all we feel, carry, and desire. So, today, and on any given Sunday, use all that we come here with to build a sanctuary for you. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #559** "Here I Am, Lord"

## CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements                      Joys and Concerns of our Church Family  
Introduction of Guests

**\*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)**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Rachel

Thornsberry

**\*HYMN #557** "Pass It On"

## WE OPEN UP TO GOD

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

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

“What Wondrous Love Is This” arr. Heather

Sorenson

## GOD SPEAKS TO US

**THE FIRST TESTAMENT LESSON:** Micah 6:1-8

**THE GOSPEL LESSON:** Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON “Sevā — Selfless Devotional Work”  
Wapakoneta St. Paul UCC Pastoral Intern, Anthony Brookhart

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

\*HYMN #574 “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

\*BENEDICTION

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

\*POSTLUDE “Amazing Grace” arr. Mark  
Hayes \*Denotes those who are able to are invited to stand in body and in spirit .....Depart  
to serve

ST. PAUL’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor  
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist  
Ann Vogel, Organist  
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director  
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant  
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video  
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and  
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music

Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children’s Ministry Coordinators  
Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher  
Andrea Spencer, Organist  
Madeline Frankenhauser, Children’s Music Director  
Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodian  
Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor  
Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

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

Our Giving to God, January 22, 2023  
Current - \$2119.50 / Mission - \$75  
Attendance - 54

Take note: Pastor Rhonda will be out of the office January 26-February 4<sup>th</sup>. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Becky Erb-Strang at 419-953-1152



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio  
January 29, 2023

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



**ATTENTION, LADIES OF ST. PAUL'S** There will be a Ladies Luncheon on the *first Thursday of each month* at 11:30 a.m. The location may change monthly, so watch for future details. All the ladies of the church are welcome. **RSVP to the church office or Jane Nuss by Noon at least two days before the luncheon. The next luncheon will be February 2, 2023 at JT's.**

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**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), Carol's cell (419) 305-6164, 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. **The group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7p in the church 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 (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette's absence) 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, or Ruth Knous at 419-394-8085.

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**SOMETHING NEW:** Two prayer stations of votive candles are located in the front of the sanctuary. You are invited to light a candle with the candle lighter for a prayer of joy or concern, or in remembrance of someone. Our thanks to Fred Scheer for constructing the wooden risers.

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**COOKIES FOR CROSSROADS** – The Women's Guild mission and outreach project for February is to aid Crossroad of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Crossroad is a home for troubled teens in the surrounding area. Gathering cookies for Crossroad has been a tradition of our church for many years. We would like to continue this worthy mission with your help. Bake your favorite cookies and bring them to the church kitchen or the elevette room by Sunday morning, **February 12<sup>th</sup>**. They can be decorated, plain, or bar cookies. The cookies will be delivered to Crossroad during the following week. **Please pack them in a gallon or quart zip lock bag to keep them fresh.** Any questions, please call Kris Vanderhorst.

**Women's Guild also collecting socks and underwear** for residents of **Crossroad**. Ages of the youth are 6-18. Bikini or boy short for the girls and boxer/brief for boys. Any type of socks. A basket will be in the sanctuary until **February 12<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Mission Moments**

The Vision Beautiful

*Health and Human Service Sunday*

Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are those with illnesses of the mind and heart, the diseases and dis-eases of these troubled days, and blessed are those who facilitate the slow work of healing.

Blessed are those who mourn. Blessed are those who wail with the grief of loss, and blessed are those who abide with the ones who weep.

Blessed are the meek. Blessed are the children who have been abandoned to circumstance, and bless those who fill the absences in those precious lives with warmth and commitment. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Blessed are those at the mercy of mean and chilly streets, and blessed are those who offer a warm meal, a dry bed and the promise of a transformed society where all have plenty. Amen.

*Today, we gather together with the whole United Church of Christ in observing Health and Human Service Sunday. We bear witness to the faithful heritage the UCC has in co-creating spaces of wholeness with communities across this country and around the world. The UCC and its predecessor denominations courageously founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages during times of pandemic, war, and social upheaval. Now, there are more than 400 UCC affiliated health care centers, hospitals, affordable housing and retirement communities, transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness or domestic violence, and service centers for children, youth, families, and those with developmental disabilities. These ministries continue to show up in the most challenging circumstances—and do so with the fervor of healing and justice. It is thus a day to celebrate that the life of the church is vibrant beyond our church walls and outreach ministries.*

**WELCOME!** Here at St. Paul’s we strive 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: Cara Mabry, Sharon Sullivan, 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.
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- 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.

**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.

**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	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Guest Preacher, Anthony Brookhart, Pastoral Intern at St. Paul UCC Wapakoneta.
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Christian Ed Meeting-Heritage Hall
Thurs.	11:30 am	Ladies luncheon at JT’s
	6:00 pm	Personnel
	7-8:00pm	Bell Choir
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15am	Adult Forum
	10:30am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

**St. Paul’s Grant Applications** are now available in the church office, or on the podium in the library

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# Micah 6:1-8

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

## God Challenges Israel

**6** Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

**2** Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

**3** "O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

**4** For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

**5** O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

## What God Requires

**6** "With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

**7** Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

**8** He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

# Matthew 5:1-12

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

## The Beatitudes

**5** When Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

**3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**4** "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**5** "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**6** "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**7** "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**8** "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

**9** "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**10** "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**11** "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely<sup>[b]</sup> on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.