

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

October 8, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
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 CALL US TO WORSHIP

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 new today, please fill in the Welcome Card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate.)

PRELUDE	“Here I Am To Worship”	Tim Hughes
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***OPENING HYMN #518** "Give Thanks for Life"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come to hear the Word. Come to do the Word. Come to experience Comfort.
Come to experience Challenge. Come to find Cost. Come to find Joy.
Come to find Humanity. Come to find Community. Come to find Church.
Come to find God.

***UNISON PRAYER of INTERCESSION**

God, You are a God of compassion and love. Time after time we have experienced your care and provision. Time after time You've answered our prayers and met our needs—often in ways we could never have dreamed possible. We praise You for Your faithful love toward us. Because we have known Your love, we come to You with confidence, offering our prayers for the world that You love.

We see so much pain and suffering; so much anger and frustration and despair. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the needs around us. But we continue to bring our prayers to You in faith, because we know that nothing is impossible for You. You are the God who rained

**down bread from heaven, and made water flow from a rock in the desert; the God who
resurrected Jesus Christ from the dead, and who brings new life and hope to all who believe.
For You, all things are possible.
Hear our prayers.**

We pray for those suffering the effects of recent natural disasters....
(insert petitions here)

Because nothing is impossible for You, O God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

We pray for the regions of our world caught up in violence and threats of violence:
(insert petitions here)

Because nothing is impossible for You, O God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

We pray for those who live with serious illness, chronic pain, those who lack access to proper medical care. We pray for those for whom treatment is no longer an option. Because nothing is impossible for You, O God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

Merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to show us a different way to live—the way of deep humility and obedience. You’ve called us to love one another, and to work together with one heart and mind, balancing our needs with the needs of those around us. Give us courage to follow faithfully, and with integrity— with actions that bear witness to the words we speak, and worship that overflows into our daily tasks and relationships—so that our lives will bring glory and honor to You, our Redeemer and Lord. Hear us now as we pray together, Our Father Amen.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY


Announcements	Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests	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 #568** “People Need the Lord”

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.



If you are not already on the prayer team email list and would like to be, please provide Carol Schmidt with a valid email address. Carol’s email is: lschmidt@bright.net

NEXT SUNDAY, October 15th following worship there will be a Pot-Luck Carry-In luncheon celebrating Rev. Jeanette’s 25th Anniversary of her Ordination! (*tableware, drinks and dessert provided*).

Have you returned your questionnaire? The Strategic Planning committee would like to hear from you. This is your chance to tell the committee what the church is doing well and where improvements can be made.

Accepting:

- New/gently used heavy winter coats
- New winter hats
- New winter gloves
- New winter scarves
- New socks

Agape Ministries, Inc

Warm Winter Coat Drive

September 19th - October 30th



FALL WORD SEARCH

H	J	N	I	F	I	P	J	K	R	F	H	R	E	T
A	D	M	B	Z	O	R	U	E	T	F	J	E	Y	H
L	I	U	F	T	W	O	B	M	V	R	F	W	R	A
L	Y	T	N	B	R	O	T	E	P	A	J	O	E	N
O	Y	U	A	Z	T	N	Y	B	C	K	S	L	B	K
W	J	A	T	C	J	D	R	S	A	E	I	F	M	S
E	G	L	O	F	N	D	S	O	E	L	Q	N	E	G
E	S	W	E	A	T	E	R	E	C	V	L	U	V	I
N	C	C	C	I	D	E	R	H	L	A	A	S	O	V
S	I	E	D	I	R	Y	A	H	P	P	T	E	N	I
O	W	O	R	C	E	R	A	C	S	U	P	M	L	N
W	I	Y	C	G	V	Y	A	F	R	G	T	A	W	G
N	L	D	T	E	Y	Y	K	K	P	I	E	I	X	E
J	Q	R	S	L	X	R	E	B	M	E	T	P	E	S
Y	E	T	E	V	G	Y	T	H	W	I	C	K	U	J

ACORN
FOOTBALL
NOVEMBER
SEPTEMBER

APPLES
HALLOWEEN
OCTOBER
SUNFLOWER

AUTUMN
HARVEST
PUMPKIN
SWEATER

CANDY
HAYRIDE
RAKE
THANKSGIVING

CIDER
LEAVES
SCARECROW
TURKEY

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: Ron Ketchum, Larry Kill, Kathy Raymond, Evelyn Horner, Cheryl Kline, John Long, Laura Yelton, and Virginia Larmore (daughter-in-law of Kendra Strand). Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
 - Please keep the family of Shirley Harold in your prayers. Shirley passed earlier this past week.
 - Please keep Mary Schumm in your prayers. She will be having total knee replacement this Friday, October 13th, in Cincinnati.
 - 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 **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.

The Numbers of Hope to Max Lucado 3:16 Small Group Bible Study — Every Tuesday Afternoon 1:30 PM starting October 10th in the church media room - led by Derick Johnson. Join us for study, reflection, and fellowship as we grow closer to Jesus Christ.

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

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 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	Sunday School / Confirmation / Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Tues.	6:00-8:00 pm	Strategic Planning Committee Mtg.
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	1-6:00pm	Consistory
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread Community Meal
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School / Confirmation / Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Association Minister, Daniel Busch
	11:30 am	Carry-In Luncheon celebrating Rev. Jeanette Tangeman



Matthew 21:33-46

New Revised Standard Version Updated
Edition

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,'^[a]

this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."^[b]

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.