

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

December 28, 2025 First Sunday After Christmas 10:00 a.m.

Order of Service

*Welcome to our Worship Service today.
Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life.*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMES

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine" – Mark Hayes

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We come today remembering the steadfast love of the Lord,

People: We praise the One who has acted on our behalf.

Leader: We recall all that God has done, according to His mercy and His compassion.

People: In our distress, God was distressed. In love and pity, God redeemed His people.

Leader: God lifted them up and carried them, not for a moment, but through all their days.

People: Come, let us worship the God whose love saves, whose presence remains, and whose mercy still carries us.

***Morning Prayer**

Gracious and faithful God, we give You thanks that in Your great Love You chose to draw near to us. You sent Your Son to share our humanity, to walk where we walk, to suffer where we suffer, and to lead us into salvation. Jesus, our brother and our Savior, You are not ashamed to call us Your own. You entered our weakness, faced temptation, and broke the power of fear

and death. Because You suffered, You are able to help us when we struggle. Because You know our lives from the inside, we trust You with our burdens, our doubts, and our hopes. As we continue in this Christmas season, help us remember that the child in the manger is the One who redeems, restores, and walks with us still. It is in this spirit that we pray together, Our Father...

***HYMN #198** "Good Christian Men Rejoice"

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

Visitors

***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 #225** "I Wonder as I Wander"

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Sweet Little Jesus Boy" - Mark Hayes

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 2:13-23

SERMON "Praise That Follows Us into Egypt" **Pastor Ed Karges**

***Closing Hymn: #218** "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*Benediction

Postlude: "A Rosetti Christmas" – Mark Hayes

*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

CHURCH OFFICE: (419) 394-3811

CHURCH FAX: (419) 394-8733

EMAIL: SMUCC@BRIGHT.NET

WEBSITE: WWW.STPAULSUCCSM.COM

PASTOR ED KARGES

EMAIL: EDWARDKARGES74@GMAIL.COM

MOBILE: (260) 409-0974

PRAYER REQUEST EMAIL (CAROL SCHMIDT): CSCHMIDT@STPAULSUCCSM.COM

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EMAIL: JNWL2021@GMAIL.COM

Back Bay Missionary: Rev. Jeanette Tangeman

Audio and Video: Rich Spencer

Pianist/Music Coordinator: Becky Anderson

Organist: Andrea Spencer

Pianist: Kathlene Larson

Youth Director: Nick Frankenhauser

Children's Music: Maddy Frankenhauser

Custodians: Brad and Nam Gehrlich

Administrative Assistant: Steve Slawson

Missionaries: All Members of our Congregation

Multi-Media: Jim Huckemeyer

Multi-Media: Derick Johnson

Organist: Ann Vogel

Organist: Darryl Smith

Church Historian: Fred Scheer

Children's Ministry: Jane Nuss

Confirmation: Amy Keller

*Liturgist: Ollie Chisom
Our Giving to God, December 21, 2025
Current - \$ 6,155 / Mission - \$ 683
(Includes Vanco e-giving for the week)*

Attendance - 122

Loose offering today will go to the Current Fund

Altar Flowers are given today by DeWayne and Billie Marsee in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

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

December 28, 2025

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



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Happy New Year!

OLD LANG SYNE	NEW YEARS EVE	NEW YEARS DAY	PARTY POPPERS
CEBRATION	RESOLUTION	COUNTDOWN	BEGINNING
EWWORKS	CHAMPAGNE	DECEMBER	CALENDAR
IGHTER	HOGMANAY	NEW YEAR	PROMISES
ONIGHT	DANCING	FRIENDS	BIG BEN
ING	JANUARY	FAMILY	MUSIC
LS	PARTY	KISS	FUN
	NEW		

NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE – We have a Nursery available for those that need it. Children in 1st Grade and older should remain in the church.

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE restroom is located on the sanctuary level near the Hospitality 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**, on Sundays at 10:00am, and shown again on Mondays at 7:00pm.

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 Media Table in the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Handicap Accessible and Live Streamed

Today	10:00 am	Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges
Monday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Tuesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Wednesday	9:00 am – NOON	Church Office Hours
	9:00 am	Quilting
Thursday	NEW YEAR'S DAY	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Friday		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Adult Forum Class
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges

Interested in joining our church? Please see Pastor Ed for information.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue praying for: Jeff Lemming, Wynette Mase,
- Jeanette Tangeman's granddaughter, Brianna, who is home and slowly recovering while caring for newborn twins,
- Leslie Hullinger, who is home recovering from hip surgery,
- All Legacy Members and Shut-ins, and the caregivers who provide them care,
- All those illnesses which cannot be seen,
- All those, both young and old, who are facing financial or other life difficulties during this Christmas Season.

All prayer requests should be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: Lschmidt@stpauluccsm.com, or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.

If anyone would like to become a member of the prayer team and receive emails/updates for prayer requests, please submit your email address to Carol Schmidt at: Lschmidt@bright.net or text 419-394-6164.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday School and the Adult Forum Class will resume next Sunday.

The Caregiving Support Group will meet on Monday, January 5th at 7:00 pm.

The next BINGO event will be on Tuesday, January 6th at Vancrest at 6:30 pm.

The Christian Ed Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00 pm.

The Ladies Luncheon will be on Thursday, January 8th at 11:30 am at JT's.

The Personnel Committee will meet on Thursday, January 8th at 6:00 pm.

BREAKING BREAD resumes on Thursday, January 8th, 4:30 pm – 5:15 pm!
We are ready to once again serve regular Thursday meals out of our newly refurbished kitchen and need our volunteers to come and help!



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE:

Don't forget that we have online giving for your convenience! It is available now by downloading [Vanco Payment Solutions](#) onto your mobile device. Go 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 take you to the Vanco site.

We are ALWAYS in need of Liturgists and volunteers to bring flowers for the altar. The [2026 Altar Flower Chart](#) and [Liturgist Sign-Up Sheets](#) are posted on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment in the Sanctuary.

12.28.25 Scripture

MATTHEW 2:13-23

The Escape to Egypt

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

The Massacre of the Infants

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the Magi.

¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

The Return from Egypt

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

12.28.25 Announcements

Sunday School and the Adult Forum Class will resume next Sunday, January 4th.

The Caregiving Support Group will meet on Monday, January 5th at 7:00 pm.

The next BINGO event will be on Tuesday, January 6th at Vancrest at 6:30 pm.

The Christian Ed Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00 pm.

The Ladies Luncheon will be on Thursday, January 8th at 11:30 am at JT's.

The Personnel Committee will meet on Thursday, January 8th at 6:00 pm.

BREAKING BREAD resumes on Thursday, January 8th, 4:30 pm – 5:15 pm!

We are ready to once again serve regular Thursday meals out of our newly refurbished kitchen and need our volunteers to come and help!

We are ALWAYS in need of Liturgists and volunteers to bring flowers for the altar. The 2026 Altar Flower Chart and Liturgist Sign-Up Sheets are posted on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment in the Sanctuary.