

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

February 25, 2024 Second Sunday In Lent 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.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMES

WELCOME

EXTINGUISH THE LENTEN CANDLES

POSTLUDE “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” arr. Mark Hayes

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

People: **In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God’s grace for all creation.**

Leader: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God's people.

People: **In the tablets of stone, we see the sign of God's hope for each to live in peace with God and neighbor.**

Leader: In the days of the prophet, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

ALL: **As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the sign of God's promise among us.**

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)

Leader: Lord, listen to our prayers for ourselves at this time. Bring to our minds the places we have compromised the truth for that which is convenient to us; the times we have shut our eyes, ears and hearts to the needs of others; the times we have indulged ourselves to our own detriment. Help us, dear God, to know that you forgive these things, and give us strength to resist them in the future.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, listen to our prayers for others at this time: for those who hunger for bread but only find stones; for those who seek justice but can find no advocate who will help them; for those who are in danger and have no one watching over them.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, speak to us in the silence of our hearts.

Show us the way to go... (a moment of silence)

We pray to you in the name of Jesus, who taught us to come to you saying,
Our Father....

* HYMN # 123 “Fairest Lord Jesus”

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

On the Steps with the Children

SPECIAL MUSIC Sunday School Children Maddie Frankenhauser, Director of Childrens Music
“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” “Jesus Loves Me”

ON THE STEPS WITH THE CHILDREN

* 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 #502 “Be Thou My Vision”

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD “Were You There?/Kum Ba Yah” arr. Brenda Dillon

* DOXOLOGY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: God of the wilderness, We give these offerings in gratitude,

People: **rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.**

Leader: We give these offerings in faith,

People: **trusting that you will provide for our needs.**

Leader: We give these offerings in hope,

People: **knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.**

Leader: and with these offerings, we give ourselves;

People: **May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 22: 23-31

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 9: 2-9

Message

“Plums or Prunes?”

Kevin Gehres

* HYMN #559 "Here I Am, Lord"

BENEDICTION

Leader: The quiet strength of Christ, the humble power of God, and the ever-present light of the Spirit, *is yours* today and always.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Great is the Lord"

arr. Carol Tornquist

*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

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer

Email: rhainer@bright.net

Mobile: (563) 210-3508

Prayer Request Email (Carol Schmidt): cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com

Christian Education Email: ijnl2021@gmail.com

Media Email: 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: Stephanie Marsee

Acolytes: Confirmands

Our Giving to God, February 18, 2024

Current - \$1,451.00 / Mission - \$90.00

Attendance - 46

Altar flowers are given in honor of Ron Hunter's 80th birthday from his loving family.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio

February 25, 2024

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



Lenten Coin Boxes are available to pick up at the North and South entrances as you leave worship today.

2023 ANNUAL REPORTS are available for pick up in the Hospitality Room and the Chapel.

AGAPE TOILET PAPER MISSION Our goal for 2024 is 1,500! That averages 125 rolls per month. **So far, in January we have collected 143 rolls.** Keep up the good work! It is greatly appreciated by the Agape clients.

Janet Gibson and Terri Kerns

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.

TIME SHARE: If you enjoy listening and sharing in conversation, you might want to consider joining the Legacy Members calling team. It involves making visits, phone calls or sending cards to out members who are either homebound or in nursing homes. Everyone enjoys a visit or call, or a card from a fellow church member.

MIDWEEK VESPERS

Lenten Vespers: Each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7 pm, all are invited to join in midweek *Lenten Vespers*, (February 28, March 6, 13, 20) in the sanctuary. These brief (30 minute) services are intentionally designed to give you an anchor, to re-focus your life on God during Lent.

LENT IN THE CHAPEL

Once again throughout Lent, the Chapel (adjacent to the sanctuary) is open everyday and Lenten devotional and prayer materials are available for your use while sitting in the chapel or to take home to read there. Everyone is invited to stop by the Chapel for a moment or longer to rest, to pray, to listen.

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: *Ron Ketchum, Bernie Schroer, Sharon Sullivan, John Long, Kathy Raymond, Evelyn Horner and the family of Beverly Miller.*
- Prayers of Sympathy to Jean and Fred Waesch as their daughter, Tammi Robbins of Winchester, IN, passed away while awaiting a liver transplant. Jean is a sister of Joyce Greenawalt and Karen James. Fred is brother-in-law to Carol Waesch.
- Remember to pray for our shut-ins and the caregivers who provide care for 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.

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.

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

"To the person who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness ..."
Ecclesiastes 2:26

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 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**, 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 Kevin Gehres
Monday	1:00 pm	Children sing <u>Church Office closed</u>
Tuesday	9 am – noon	Rebecca Circle
	And 1 – 3 pm	Church Office Hours
Wednesday	9 am – noon	Church Office Hours
	And 1 – 3 pm	Church Office Hours
	9:00 am	Church Office Hours
	7:00 pm	Quilters
Thursday	9 am – noon	Lenten Vespers
	And 1 –3 pm	Church Office Hours
Friday		Church Office Hours
Next Sun.	9:15 am	<u>Church Office closed</u>
	10:30 am	Sunday School / Confirmation / Adult Forum Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

Memory

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

BOOST	ENJOY	LOVE	RETAIN
CARE	EXERCISE	MEMORY	SAVE
CHEER	FAMILY	NOURISH	SHARE
DELAY	HEALTH	ONSET	
ELDERLY	LEARN	RECOLLECT	
ENCOURAGE	LIVE	REMEMBER	

Courtesy of wordsearchusa.com