

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

April 23, 2023	Third Sunday of Easter	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 “He Is Lord / Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praises”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Where shattered hearts are made whole, where wounded souls are healed,
where life is stronger than death:

People: there, the stone has been rolled away.

Leader: Where the lonely become our friends, where a stranger is welcomed home,
where hope is stronger than despair,

People: there, we find Jesus walking.

Leader: Where closed wallets are opened, where the anxious find serenity, where love is stronger than hate:

People: **there, Jesus is opening our eyes.**

Leader: The stone has been rolled away! Jesus is our companion on the journey!
Our eyes are opened to the needs of others!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is with us!

***UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

Risen Christ, as you journeyed with the two who travelled the Emmaus Road travel with us on our journey of faith. In our encounters on the way, give us compassion to listen to the other's story, patience to explain what may seem obvious to ourselves,

and courage to make ourselves vulnerable, so that others may encounter you through us and we may rediscover you through them. Amen.

***HYMN #87** “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

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

***HYMN #302** "He Lives"

Kaitlyn Gross

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

“At the Cross”

GOD SPEAKS TO US

THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:13-35

SERMON "Life Shattered, Life Restored" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

***HYMN #624** "When the Poor Ones"

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** “Enviado Soy de Dios” (Sent Out in Jesus' Name)

“Sent out in Jesus’ name, our hands are ready now to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes. Sent out in Jesus’ name, our hands are ready now to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes. The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain into a world of love, of justice and of peace. The task is ours to do, to set it really free. O help us to obey and carry out your will.”

***Denotes those who are able to are invited to stand in body and in spiritDepart to serve**

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

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

LiturgistDiane Gayer
 AcolytesMiddle School Youth
 Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, April 16, 2023
Current - \$2583.90 / Mission - \$145.00
Attendance – 100

*Altar flowers today are from Diane Gayer in honor of Kalie's 21st birthday
 and 10 days later, Diane becoming a 21 year old MOM!*



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

April 23, 2023



STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Please note that colored notecards in the pews. Take a minute before church to answer the monthly “Stewardship Reflecting Question” that will be printed in the bulletin. Please write your response on your notecard and drop it in the offering plate! Either include your name on the card, or you can remain anonymous. Responses will be compiled and shared on the screens before church services.

APRIL QUESTION: How do you feel you’ve been a good steward of God’s blessings? What are some ways to be better stewards of these gifts?

ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENTS/CAMPERS

Please inform Jane Nuss and Joni Leffel if you are going to church camp by **May 1st**, so that the church has time to submit funds towards your camp fees. Please email us, or text/call us. Email: jnjl2021@gmail.com or cell numbers: Joni Leffel 419-305-5610, Jane Nuss 419-305-9629. It is easier for us if you email, call or text us instead of leaving a message for us at the church office. There will also be a signup list in the gathering room.

LADIES TAKE NOTE

Due to a lack of interest, the Women’s Retreat scheduled in June, has been canceled.

Everyone is invited to the “Caregiving from the Heart Support Group” held at St. Paul’s. **Which meets on the first Monday each month at 7p in the church Chapel.** 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. The session will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette’s absence). The purpose of the gathering is to support each other, learn from each other, and find helpful resources. Please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935, or Ruth Knous at 419-953-6274 if any questions.

Agape Ministries is in need of volunteers! Contact Kris Rasneor at Agape Ministries, 419-394-8700 if interested.

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ATTENTION LADIES OF ST. PAUL’S

The Ladies Luncheon will be at JT’s on Thursday, May 4th at 11:30 a.m. All of the ladies of the church are welcome. Please **RSVP to the church office or Jane Nuss by Noon on the Monday before the luncheon.**

On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).



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

WALKED	JESUS	SUFFER	CRUCIFIED
MOSES	BREAD	BELIEVE	VISITOR
THANKS	FOOLISH	PROPHET	EYES
CLEOPAS	OPENED	VILLAGE	EMMAUS

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: Pastor Rhonda's sister Patti Lang is now at home recuperating in Florida, Tony McDonald, Cheryl Kline, John Hall, Shirley Harold, and John Long. Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
 - 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.
- 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.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL KICKOFF ~~ TODAY

COME AND HELP CELEBRATE THE RICH HISTORY OF ST. MARYS
SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023, from 5-7:30pm
Fellowship Hall here at St. Paul's
There will be a slideshow presentation.
Appetizers will be served.

Local historian Lynne Paulus Ray will present a slideshow of St. Marys, and the surrounding area with pictures and postcards.

Please invite family and friends. If you have any questions, contact Amy Keller

- 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		
Today	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
	5:00-7:30 pm	Family Room Event – Bicentennial Kickoff
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread Community Meal
Sat.	9:00 am	NWOA Assn. Mtg – Wapakoneta St. Paul UCC
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer



Luke 24:13-35 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Walk to Emmaus

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad.^[b] ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth,^[c] who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.^[d] Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah^[e] should suffer these things and then enter into his

glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us^[f] while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.