

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

**July 2, 2023                      Fifth Sunday After Pentecost                      10:00 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.)

<b>PRELUDE</b>	<b>“Let’s Just Praise the Lord”</b>	<b>Fred Bock</b>
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**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

People: **Your Glory is sung by all of your creation!**

Leader: When we look to the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, we wonder...

People: **Who are we that you care for us and for this world?**

Leader: When we realize in awe that this country we live in is but a tiny portion of this world, yet is so precious to us we wonder...

People: **How is it that we are able to bask in our country's beauty, to live our days in its freedom?**

All: **With glad hearts, let us join together in singing praise to God, never forgetting to give thanks for our Creator God and for the love of all who have gone before us. Continue beside us to sustain the beauty and freedom, not of just our country, but of the whole earth.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**We come, O God, with our eyes and imaginations filled with the challenging things of our world. We come, O God seeking promises that offer us hope. We come, O God, seeking**

**inspiration to see your signs, know your healing, and be sent forth renewed as your people.  
Amen.**

**\*HYMN #569**                      “God of Grace and God of Glory”

## CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements	Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests	Birthdays

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**      Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.  
    People: **And also with you.**  
    (Offer God's peace to those nearby with whatever you are comfortable with)

**\*HYMN #552**                      “We Are All One in Mission”

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

## WE OPEN UP TO GOD

**OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD   \*DOXOLOGY   PRAYER OF DEDICATION**  
*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"* Fred Bock

## GOD SPEAKS TO US

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Becky Anderson

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Isaiah 58: 7-11  
**THE GOSPEL LESSON** 1 Peter 4: 8-11

**SERMON** "Mission...Independence" Kevin Gehres, Guest Speaker

**WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE**

**\*HYMN #559**                      “Here I Am, Lord”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**                      “This is My Country”                      Al Jacobs

**\*Denotes those who are able to are invited to stand in body and in spirit .....Depart to serve**

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be **NO After Service Communion** today as Pastor Rhonda is a Delegate to General Synod of the UCC held in Indianapolis, IN. She will return this Wednesday. Communion is rescheduled for the next Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinators
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodians
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music	Jim Huckemeyer, Multi-Media

Liturgist .....Kathlene Larson  
Acolytes .....Deacons  
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

***Our Giving to God, June 25, 2023***  
***Current - \$9226.28 / Mission - \$100.00***  
***Attendance – 78***

***Altar flowers today are from Richard and Kathlene Larson in honor and memory of their parents.***

***The loose offering today is designated to the Organ Refurbishing Fund***

***The loose offering next Sunday, July 9th is designated to the Rally Day Fund***

#### **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.

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

There will be an Open House in Heritage Hall on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm for Grace Young's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We invite you to stop in for a visit to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Please note the 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.

July Question:

To Be Announced Soon

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. EXCEPT in July. In July we will meet on the 10<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday. 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. 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, if any questions.

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

Helping Each other Adjust to Loss

HEAL is the St. Paul’s grief support group led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, who is trained to assist persons in times of loss, struggle, or crisis. The HEAL group meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Chapel (next to the Sanctuary) at 1:30 p.m. This group is open for anyone who is seeking comfort, clarity, and hope for a path forward. The next meeting is on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

AGAPE TOILET PAPER MISSION

Let’s get rolling and collect toilet paper rolls in the Hospitality Room. We can also purchase the rolls for you. Just give your donation 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.



Independence Day

July 4<sup>th</sup>



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

ADAMS  
AMERICA  
BARBECUE  
COLONIES  
CONGRESS  
DECLARATION  
EQUALITY  
FIREWORKS

FOURTH  
FREEDOM  
HOTDOGS  
INDEPENDENCE  
JEFFERSON  
JULY  
LIBERTY  
NATION

PARADE  
REVOLUTION  
RIGHTS  
STATES  
THIRTEEN  
UNITED



**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: Evelyn Horner, Ann Hudson, LeRoy Kogge, Cheryl Kline, Shirley Harold, John Long, and Virginia Larmore (daughter-in-law of Kendra Strand). Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
  - Our Sympathy is extended to Steve Taylor as his brother, Brad, died this past week.
  - 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.
- 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.

**AGAPE School Supply Program**

In order to ensure that the clients that are in need of school supplies receive what they need, Agape will be administering our school supply program differently for the upcoming school year. **We will not be collecting any supplies**, in a drive, but will be offering everyone the opportunity to sponsor a child. Each sponsorship will be \$15 each child. To sponsor a child, you can donate \$15 (or more) to Agape with a note of where the money is to go, or write School Supply Program on the memo line of your check.

- 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		
Handicap Accessible		
Today	10:00 am	Worship with guest Kevin Gehres
Tues.		Church closed for holiday
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	11:30 am	Ladies luncheon at JT's
	6:00 pm	Personnel Meeting
Next Sun.	10:00 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

**CREATING OUR VISION FOR THE CHURCH**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Our church is embarking on a strategic planning process to create a long-range plan for our future. We anticipate a 5-month planning process, with one, 2-hour meeting each month beginning this fall. We are looking for a group of 6–9 volunteers who are willing to serve as the task force for the planning process, and ask that you give consideration to participating. If interested, or would like to learn more about what is needed, please contact Ruth Knous, who is facilitating the process. She can be reached at [rknous@ohioymcas.org](mailto:rknous@ohioymcas.org) or by call/text at (419) 953-6274.

## Isaiah 58:7-11

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator<sup>[a]</sup> shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,

like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.

## 1 Peter 4:8-11

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>8</sup> Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup> Be hospitable to one another without complaining. <sup>10</sup> Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. <sup>11</sup> Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.