

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

August 27, 2023 **Thirteenth 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.)*

PRELUDE "Speak O Lord" Keith Townend and Keith Getty

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We who have risen to embrace this day, we who are weary in body and Spirit...

People: are welcome in this sacred place.

Leader: We who know the abundance of life, we who are left impoverished by harsh realities...

People: receive a sustaining measure of God's love.

Leader: We who are strong in mind and soul, we who are challenged by illnesses of many kinds...

People: are whole in the Spirit of God.

Leader: We who have a voice and the strength to use it, we who whisper prayers in our hearts...

People: are invited to worship the God we love.

ALL: Come, for you have a place of honor in the heart of God.

***UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

Jesus, we claim you as Savior and friend. This may seem a bold claim, yet we know your grace and love and so we speak it boldly. We fix our vision on you so that we see the world with the clear sight of your discerning Spirit. We seek to know your mind and lay ourselves open to

walking your path. We ask that you gather us in your warm embracing kindness, this day and always. Amen.

***HYMN #85** "I Love You, Lord"

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.
(Offer God's peace to those nearby)

***HYMN #69** "I Worship You, Almighty God"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD ***DOXOLOGY** arr. Mark Hayes
 "Cornerstone"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)
May the offerings brought this day be used as seeds, planted faithfully and nurtured lovingly so that God's way may be realized anew in this world.
Grant us the humility we need to plant and then tend your precious garden. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

SPECIAL MUSIC Becky Anderson and Cindy Hanover

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:31-46
THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 John 4:7-16

SERMON "Horton Hears a Who" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

***HYMN #440** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

***BENEDICTION**

*POSTLUDE "Soon and Very Soon" arr. Jack Schrade
*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: jnj12021@gmail.com
email for youth director: youth.stpaulsucc@gmail.com email for media: spmedia@bright.net

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 Gehrlach, 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

LiturgistKathlene Larson
AcolytesDeacons
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, August 20, 2023
Current - \$2723.00 / Mission - \$280.00
Attendance – 91

The flowers on the altar today are from Jim Huckemeyer
"In memory of Cindy Huckemeyer. This would have been her 72nd birthday."

Additional altar flowers this morning are from Nanette Price and Wynette Mase in celebration of their 85th birthday today. "We have received a great blessing from the fellowship here at St Paul's Church"

The loose offering next Sunday, September 3rd is for the Organ Refurbishing Fund
There will be after service communion following worship NEXT Sunday

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
August 27, 2023



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

CAREGIVING FROM THE HEART SUPPORT GROUP: 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. ***IN SEPTEMBER, the group will meet on SEPTEMBER 11TH due to Labor Day.*** 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 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.



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: Ischmidt@bright.net

SAVE THE DATE: **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).*

ATTENTION LADIES OF ST. PAUL’S: There will be a Ladies Luncheon at **Believe Art from the Heart north of Sidney.** Meet at the church by 11:15a to carpool on Thursday, September 7th. 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.**

CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt condolences go out the Poetter Family. Karl Poetter passed away August 18th in Austrailia. He is survived by his wife and children, as well as his brother Tom Poetter and sister Vivian Poetter, MD. If you would like Tom Poetter’s address, please contact the church office.

Horton hears a who!

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

- major

small

elephant

speck
- friend

clover

person

who
- jungle

monkey

kangaroo

horton

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: Kathy Raymond, Richard Larson, Evelyn Horner, 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. Please keep Tony McDonald in your prayers as he recovers from shoulder surgery.
 - 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.

RALLY DAY NEWS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for Sunday, Sept. 10th. Sunday School will resume and an all-church pizza party will follow the worship service. Complete the RSVP form below and send to/or drop off at the church office. You may place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning, or call the office to let Carolyn know you are attending.

RSVP FOR RALLY DAY PIZZA PARTY BY TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

_____ Yes, I/we will attend the worship and luncheon _____ # attending

- 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	10:00 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Wed.	9:00 pm	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread
Next Sun.	10:00 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

SACRED SPACES TOUR OF CHURCHES, A BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

As part of the Auglaize County Bicentennial Celebration, the Auglaize County Historical Society has asked St. Marys area churches to open their doors to the public on Sunday, October 1, from 1-4pm for church tours. St. Paul's UCC is one of the churches listed on the tour. Along with the tours, the history of our church will be shared, cookies, punch, and coffee will be available for those visiting. These tours are open to the public. Everyone is welcome!

Matthew 25:31-46

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Judgment of the Nations³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

1 John 4:7-16

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

God Is Love

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.