

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

September 7, 2025 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am

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 "I Surrender All" arr. Stan Pethel

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Lord, You have searched us and known us.

People: You know when we sit and when we rise; You know our thoughts
from afar.

Leader: You search out our path and our lying down, and You are familiar with
all our ways.

People: Even before a word is on our tongues, Lord, You know it completely.

Leader: You hem us in, behind and before, and You lay Your hand upon us.

People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for us; it is so high we cannot
attain it.

Leader: Come, let us worship.

People: Let us worship the God who knows us fully and loves us completely!

*MORNING PRAYER

Almighty and Merciful God, this morning we come before You with thankful
hearts. Your Word tells us that those who delight in Your law are like trees
planted by streams of water that are rooted, nourished, and fruitful. Lord,
plant us deep in Your truth today. Keep us from walking in the counsel of the
wicked or standing in the way of sin but guide our steps in Your righteousness.

We confess that too often we chase after things that wither and fade.
Forgive us, Lord, and draw us back to Your life-giving presence. May we
meditate on Your Word, day and night, finding joy and strength in Your
promises. It is in this spirit that we pray together, Our Father...

*HYMN #113 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart "

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements Joys and Concerns Visitors Birthdays

*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 #466 "Take My Life and Let It Be"

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Blessed Assurance" arr. Zach James

*DOXOLOGY *PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SPECIAL MUSIC "Speak, O Lord" arr. Lloyd Larson
Bryan Lynch, Jean Smith – Flute Darryl Smith, piano

THE GOSPEL LESSON LUKE 14:16-24

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON "From Excuses to Embrace" Pastor Ed Karges

*HYMN #480 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

*Benediction

POSTLUDE "They'll Know We Are Christians" arr. Mark Hayes

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

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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PRAYER REQUEST EMAIL (CAROL SCHMIDT): CSCHMIDT@STPAULSUCCSM.COM
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EMAIL: JNJL2021@GMAIL.COM

Back Bay Missionary: Rev. Jeanette Tangeman
Audio and Video: Rich Spencer
Pianist/Music Coordinator: Becky Anderson
Organist: Andrea Spencer
Pianist: Cynthia Hanover
Youth Director: Nick Frankenhauser
Children's Music: Maddy Frankenhauser
Administrative Assistant: Steve Slawson
Church Historian: Fred Scheer

Multi-Media: Jim Huckemeyer
Multi-Media: Derick Johnson
Organist: Ann Vogel
Organist: Darryl Smith
Pianist: Kathlene Larson
Children's Ministry: Jane Nuss
Confirmation: Amy Keller
Custodians: Brad and Nam Gehrlich
Missionaries: All Members of our Congregation

Liturgist: *Stephanie Marsee*
Our Giving to God, August 31, 2025
Current - \$ 1,851 / Mission - \$ 75
(Includes Vanco e-giving for the week)
Attendance – 73
Loose offering today will go to the Organ Fund

Altar Flowers are given today by Tom & Jill Dickman
in honor of all Grandparents

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
September 7, 2025

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



PRAYER REQUESTS

- *Please continue praying for: Sidney Smith, Carol Schmidt, Laurie Gaines*
- *Kelly Kill's brother, Jeff Lemming, as he deals with a health issue,*
- *Lucas Knatz, who is dealing with a health issue,*
- *All Legacy Members and Shut-ins, and the caregivers who provide them care,*
- *All those illnesses which cannot be seen.*

All prayer requests should 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.

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

The Caregiving Support Group meets tomorrow at 7:00 pm

The Consistory meets this Wednesday, 6:00 pm

RALLY DAY IS NEXT SUNDAY !!

Rebecca Circle meets on Monday, September 15th at 1:00 pm

Our next KIDKONNECT event will be Wednesday, September 17th 6:00-7:30 pm

Adult Bible Study begins Sept. 18 — “Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor” with Pastor Ed, Thursdays 6:30–7:30 PM in the Chapel.

Fall Cafeteria is coming up, Wednesday October 1st !! The Newsletter contains a lot of information, and there will be more updates in future bulletins.

We are ALWAYS in need of Liturgists and volunteers to bring flowers for the altar. The 2025 Altar Flower Chart and Liturgist Sign-Up Sheets are posted on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment in the Sanctuary.

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**, each Sunday, 10:00 am, and again Monday evenings at 7:00 pm.

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.

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
	7:00 pm	Caregiving Support Group
Tuesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Wednesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
	9:00 am	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Consistory
Thursday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
	4:30 pm – 5:15 pm	Breaking Bread
Friday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges

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

RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH !!

Join us for a Western-themed Rally Day as we celebrate the start of Sunday School at 9:00am.

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After the morning Worship Service we will have a **Chili Cookoff and Brownie Showdown !!**



Saddle Up for Rally Day!

Chili Cookoff, Brownie Showdown, and Food Drive Competition

Dust off your cowboy hats and polish your boots—it's time for our Rally Day celebration! This year we're hosting a **Chili Cookoff and Brownie Showdown** with a western theme. There will be great food, fun competition, music, and a special mission project for us all to join.

Chili Cookoff Categories and Prizes

- **Best Overall Chili (People's Choice) 75.00**
- **Spiciest Chili 40.00**
- **Most Creative Chili 40.00**
- **Kid Favorite Chili 40.00**
- **Firefighters' Favorite Chili 55.00**
(chosen by our local fire department guests!)

Brownie Showdown Categories

- **Best Chocolate Flavor 50.00**
- **Most Unique Brownie 35.00**
- **Kid Favorite Brownie 30.00**
- **Firefighters' Favorite Brownie 35.00**



Rules & Expectations for Contestants

Bring your chili in a crockpot to the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Bring at least **6–7 quarts of chili** in a crockpot (sample size for ~100 people). Each entry will be given a number at the registration table. Chili should be ready to serve after the Worship Service. Two oz. serving cups will be available for each contestant to provide for those judging the contest.

Bring **3–4 dozen brownies**, pre-cut into 1" squares for tasting. Please provide an ingredient list for allergy safety. Cups will be provided to put your small squares into.

Be creative—fun names for your chili or brownies are encouraged! Everyone attending gets to taste and vote in the "People's Choice" categories.

Not a Chili or Brownie fan? No problem! We will also be serving shredded Chicken Sandwiches, Salad, Fruit, Mac & Cheese and more. So, everyone can enjoy the feast and Fellowship.

Rally Day Food Drive: Along with the fun, Rally Day is a time to reach out in service. This year our Mission Project is a "Food Drive for AGAPE Ministries", and we're making it a little competitive! It's Men vs. Women in a friendly rivalry to see who can bring the most from the list of needed foods: Peanut Butter, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Canned Stew, Canned Fish, Canned Beans, Pasta (especially Whole Grain) and Rice (especially Brown Rice). Bring your donations through Rally Day and leave in the two barrels located in the middle area of the Sanctuary: Pink for the Women and Blue for the Men. Let's see who wins the Bragging Rights while helping families in need!

Rally Day is more than a fun kickoff—it's a time to gather, laugh, eat, and serve together as the family of God. So, round up your best recipes, bring a generous spirit for the food drive, and join us for a rootin'-tootin' good time!

If you have an entry for the Chili Cook-off or the Brownie Showdown, we will have tables setup ahead of time so you can bring them into the Fellowship Hall and set up prior to the Worship Service.

09.07.25 Scripture

LUKE 14:16-24

¹⁶ Then Jesus said to him, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. ¹⁷ At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is ready now.’ ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.’ ¹⁹ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’ ²⁰ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’ ²¹ So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ ²² And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’ ²³ Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’ ”

09.07.25 Announcements

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We are in need of Liturgists for upcoming Sunday Worship Services.

ADULT FORUM class will resume on Sunday, October 5th.

This class will meet at 8:45 am rather than 9:00.