

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

September 28, 2025 Sixteenth 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.*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMES

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Goodness of God" - Fielding and Johnson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Righteous are You, O Lord, and Your laws are right.

People: Your statutes are always Righteous.

Leader: Give us understanding that we may live.

People: Though trouble and distress have come upon us,

Leader: Your commands are our delight.

People: Your Word is true and trustworthy, now and forever.

Leader: The righteousness of Your decrees endures forever.

People: We come to worship You, God of justice and mercy, trusting in Your
Life-giving Word.

*MORNING PRAYER

Almighty and Merciful God, how blessed are we when our hearts are made
clean by Your grace. Yet too often we keep silent, holding on to our failures and
fears, and the weight of our guilt presses heavy upon us. Today, we come
honestly before You. We confess our sins and lay bare our hearts, trusting not
in our own righteousness, but in Your mercy that covers us. Surround us with
Your unfailing love and teach us to walk in the joy of Your forgiveness. Be our
hiding place, O Lord, our refuge in times of trouble, and our song of deliverance
in every season. It is in this spirit that we pray together, Our Father...

*HYMN #50

"Great Is the Lord"

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements Joys and Concerns Visitors

*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 #66

"To God Be the Glory"

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Make Room" - Cortazio and Farro

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 25:14–30

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON

"Don't Bury Your Talent"

Pastor Ed Karges

*HYMN #72

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*Benediction

POSTLUDE

*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
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EMAIL: SMUCC@BRIGHT.NET
WEBSITE: WWW.STPAULSUCCSM.COM

PASTOR ED KARGES
EMAIL: EDWARDKARGES74@GMAIL.COM
MOBILE: (260) 409-0974

PRAYER REQUEST EMAIL (CAROL SCHMIDT): CSCHMIDT@STPAULSUCCSM.COM
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EMAIL: JNKL2021@GMAIL.COM

Back Bay Missionary: Rev. Jeanette Tangeman
Audio and Video: Rich Spencer
Pianist/Music Coordinator: Becky Anderson
Organist: Andrea Spencer
Pianist: Kathlene Larson
Children's Ministry: Jane Nuss
Children's Music: Maddy Frankenhauser
Administrative Assistant: Steve Slawson
Missionaries: All Members of our Congregation

Multi-Media: Jim Huckemeyer
Multi-Media: Derick Johnson
Organist: Ann Vogel
Organist: Darryl Smith
Youth Director: Nick Frankenhauser
Church Historian: Fred Scheer
Confirmation: Amy Keller
Custodians: Brad and Nam Gehrlich

Liturgist: Becky Anderson
Our Giving to God, September 21, 2025
Current - \$ 2,353 / Mission - \$ 52
(Includes Vanco e-giving for the week)
Attendance – 97

Loose offering today will go to the Current Fund
Altar Flowers are given today by Tom & Ruth Knous
in memory of Barb Knous

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 28, 2025

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



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**, on Sundays, 10:00 am, and again Monday 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	9:00 am 10:00 am	Sunday School Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges
Monday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Tuesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Wednesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm 9:00 am 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Church Office Hours Quilting FALL CAFETERIA
Thursday	1:00 pm – 6:30 pm 9:00 am – 2:00 pm 11:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Church Office Hours Ladies Luncheon at JTs Personnel Committee Meeting Bible Study in Heritage Hall
Friday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Next Sunday	8:45 am 9:00 am 10:00 am	Adult Forum Class Sunday School Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue praying for: Sidney Smith, Jeff Lemming, Lucas Knatz, and Stonie Patterson, Jr.,
- Becky Anderson's daughter- in- law Alyssa, whose mother, Shelly Bricher, is experiencing a difficult time with cancer

FALL CAFETERIA 2025

Wednesday, October 1st, 2025, 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Chicken or Swiss Steak

Adults \$11, Children (11 and under) \$6

Craft/Bake Sale 1:00 – 6:30pm in Heritage Hall



Join us and dine in the Fellowship Hall, or you can drive through carryout by entering the main parking lot from High Street.



Tickets can be purchased at the church office or at the door, or from Jane Laird or Jane Nuss.

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.

- *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

Reminder, our Adult Bible Study, “Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor” with Pastor Ed, meets on Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 pm in Heritage Hall.

Fall Cafeteria is this Wednesday, October 1st, 5:00pm – 6:30pm.

The Craft/Bake Sale will go from 1:00pm – 6:30pm.

If you are donating baked goods for the sale, please have them at the church by 11:00am on October 1st.

The Adult Forum Class will start again next Sunday, October 5th at 8:45 am.

The children will be singing in the morning Worship Service on October 5th.

The Caregiving Support Group will meet on Monday, October 6th at 7:00 pm.

Our next BINGO will be at Otterbein on Tuesday, October 7th at 5:30 pm.

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER: The family of Marilyn Schroer is asking the congregation to please send Marilyn Schroer a card to celebrate her

90th birthday on October 11th. Her address is 12292 Bob White Lane, St. Marys, OH. Thank you!

Our Neighbors in Need offering is next Sunday, October 5th. This is a special mission offering for the United Church of Christ, supporting ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Breaking Bread meals have ended for this year, as our Kitchen remodel begins after the Fall Cafeteria. Thursday meals will resume on January 8, 2026.



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.

09.28.25 Scripture

MATTHEW 25:14–30

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴ “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once ¹⁶ the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two

talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

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