

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

December 26, 2021 First Sunday after Christmas 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
PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Isaiah 12:5-6)
Leader: Sing praises to God on high, for glorious are God's works.
People: **Sing praises to the ends of the earth.**
Leader: Shout and sing for joy, O people of God,
People: **for great is the Holy One in our midst,**
Leader: blessed is the One who comes to dwell among us.

***HYMN #179** "Joy to the World"
***HYMN #182** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: On this first Sunday after Christmas, as another year draws to a close, we come together before God and with one another, confessing
People: **the ways in which we have been caught up in the frenzied spirit of the holidays and turned away from Your Spirit of Peace; the times we have focused so much on our own lives and desires, that we have neglected the voices of your children who cry out for Justice; in our focus on making the season perfect, we have turned away from the hurting people and broken places in our world in need of healing; in the times we have dismissed Christmas as a time only for children, and we have stubbornly closed our hearts to your amazing gift of Love.**
Leader: O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Word Become Flesh, our Savior and King, hear us as we humbly pray,
People: **Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Hear the good news of Christmas. Today God reveals to us the wonders of divine love.
People: **For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

HYMN #232 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
HYMN #181 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY
Announcements Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests

PASSING OF THE PEACE
*Leader and children: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also, with you.**
(Those of you who are new among us today, please fill in the Welcome card that you will find in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate - Thank you!)

***HYMN # 229** "The First Noel"
***HYMN #185** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN #184** "What Child is This"
***HYMN #221** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

GOD SPEAKS TO US

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT
HYMN #196 "In the Bleak Midwinter"
HYMN #218 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

***BENEDICTION**
Alleluia! Our God is now here! Go forth to spread the Good News wherever you go, sharing God's love and promise with all whom you meet. Go into the world to find the lost, heal the broken,

feed the hungry, release the prisoner, rebuild the nations, bring peace among people, and make music in every heart.

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

POSTLUDE

*Denotes those who are able 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
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email for Christian Education: jinil2021@gmail.com
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor
Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music
Ann Vogel, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist

Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinators
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
Andrea Spencer, Organist
Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director
Vacant, Custodian
Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

LiturgistJill Dickman
AcolytesConfirmants
Children's offering.....No offering this week
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God December 19, 2021
Current - \$2994.00 and Mission - \$225.00
Attendance – 96

Altar flowers today are from Diane and Kalie Gayer wishing everyone
many blessings for all for the upcoming new year.

Now these three remain; faith, hope, and love. But the
greatest of these is love. I Corinthians 13:13




ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio
December 26, 2021

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



SATURDAY ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERIES: If you order altar flowers, be sure to let your florist know that the **Elevator entrance** is the **only door** that will be open on Saturdays, and that **deliveries must be made before we lock up at noon**. Thank you.

 **REMINDER -- CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2021** should be submitted to the church office **no later than 10:00 am on December 31st**, in order to receive credit on your 2021 giving statement. This gives the office time to make all final deposits for the end of the year. Any contributions received **after** 10:00 am on December 31st will be credited to you in 2022. Thank you!!

MISSION MOMENTS

First Sunday after Christmas
Luke 2:41-52
Who is This Child?

Today’s scripture reading gives us a short glimpse into the life of the boy Jesus, at the moment that he ceases being a child and begins to be a young adult. His parents, after a frantic search, discover him in the temple in a sort of self-directed impromptu confirmation class of one - a class in which he is both student and teacher.

By beautiful happenstance, this day also begins the celebration of Kwanzaa, a day for teaching and learning. The Rev. Calvin Jones of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago tells the story of this holiday* which was introduced in 1966 as a celebration of people of African descent in the United States.

While Kwanzaa is not religious, its values of anti-consumerism, strong families, and cultural tradition resonate strongly with our Christmas celebrations in the progressive church. Each day of Kwanzaa is marked by a principle, which is named both in Swahili and English. Why do you think these principles are important markers for those of African descent? Whether you celebrate

Kwanzaa or not, how might these principles inform and enrich your understanding of the Christ story?

DEADLINE

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR COMMITTEES, ETC.

Carolyn will soon begin preparing the 2021 Annual Report. Please submit your report to her by **Tuesday, January 18th**. If you can type and send it by email, it is most helpful - she can cut and paste!! If you have any questions, please give her a call in the church office.



Holiday Tunes



Away in a Manger
Choir of the Bells
Dominick the Donkey
Frosty the Snowman
Holly Jolly Christmas
Jingle Bell Rock
Jingle Bells
Let it Snow
Little Drummer Boy
Little St Nick
O Holy Night
Rudolph
Santa Baby
Silent Nigh
Silver Bells
The Christmas Song
The First Noel
Winter Wonderland

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

Chicken Scratch NY

WELCOME! 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 back side 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 "GivePlus Church". 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!



- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Vern Luedeke, Janet Keller, Verneda Fark, Cheryl Kline, Harold McCune, and Shirley Huckeriede. Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
 - **Please keep the family of Pastor Tim Smith and his church family (St. Marys Church of the Nazarene) in your prayers as they grieve the death of Pastor Tim 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 or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.
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- The **2022** Altar Flower Chart and the Liturgist sign-up sheets are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.
- **We need Liturgists!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

INSTALLATION OF 2022 CONSISTORY

The 2022 Consistory will be installed during worship next **Sunday, January 2nd**. All Elders, Deacons and Trustees are asked to attend the service that morning.

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** rest room 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. There is a one-week delay of the service shown.
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **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	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

**THERE IS COFFEE AND TEA AVAILABLE
IN THE ELEVETTE ROOM**

