

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

are invited to stand in body and in spirit

.....Depart to serve

The flowers on the chancel are in honor of the Confirmation Class

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

May 2, 2021 Fifth Sunday after Easter 10:30 a.m.
Order of Service—Confirmation Sunday

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP
WELCOME

PRELUDE “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love” Scholtes

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Women and men, boys and girls—
People: Come and worship!
Leader: Even if you’re tired and worn out—
People: Come and worship!
Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—
People: Come and worship!
Leader: Listen to what God wants to tell you. Discover how God wants to use you—
People: Come and worship!

HYMN 30 All Things Bright and Beautiful

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: The presence of God surrounds us, and yet too often we go about our daily lives oblivious to the power of Holy Spirit moving in our midst. Let us together confess the ways in which we are blind to God’s ever-present care.
God of rainbows and puddles, lover of snow showers and clear blue skies,
People: We confess to you and to one another the many ways we fail to live the lives you want for us.
Leader: We make ourselves busy with many things, and neglect to listen to your voice.
People: All too often we see the worst in the world around us, and look past your signs of hope.
Leader: We are quick to voice our dissent with one another, and refuse to see your face in the persons with whom we disagree.
People: We focus on our own hurts, anger, and disappointments, and close our hearts to your transforming grace.
Leader: O Holy Light of the world, forgive us.

People: Open our eyes to your endless possibilities. Give us courage to listen for your call to us.
Leader: Take our hearts of stone, and make them new again with your holy love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (2 Peter 1:19)

Do not be afraid. God’s light has come into the world and has scattered the darkness; the morning star rises in our hearts. Rejoice! For God does not hold our sins against us, but embraces us as God’s own beloved.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

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

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION “Alleluia” Sinclair

HYMN 589 “O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Ezekiel 36:24-28
THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:41-52;

SERMON “A Message For Confirmation Sunday” Rev. Rhonda Hainer

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION AND HOLY COMMUNION (insert)

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the One Holy Universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***WELCOME!** If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are here. If you are a returning visitor Welcome Back. Please let our sanctuary doorway greeters know you are visiting and receive a special gift of welcome.*

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: Rodney Martin and Harold McCune in your prayers as they are both in Hospice, Cheryl Kline, John Long, Ron Luthman (son-in-law of Diana Prichard), and for all of our military and emergency services.
- 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.

The **2021** Altar Flower Chart and the Liturgist sign-up sheets are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment. **Liturgists are needed!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

TAKE NOTE:

Don't forget, we have The Upper Room and These Days devotionals located in the Lounge, the Perry Street Entrance and in the Elevette Room.

Wanted -- NEEDED

Person(s) to fill in when Rich and/or Jim are gone on vacation

Video and sound are an important part of our weekly service.
Please prayerfully consider helping with multi media.
Contact Rich or Jim if interested.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

- ✚ **DUE TO COVID, OFFERING PLATES WILL NOT BE PASSED IN THE PEWS. Please place your offering in the offering plates before service begins.**
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **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 **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, St. Paul's Facebook page, 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

Sunday	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum – Heritage Hall
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer – Confirmation Sunday
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread-Drive Thru Only
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum – Heritage Hall
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer – Mother's Day

Summer Camp Registration is Now Open!!!

Interested in camp this summer? The 2021 summer camp registration portal is now open! Visit <http://www.ohioucc.org/outdoor-ministries/> to register for camp! There are opportunities available for people of all ages, so check your calendar and get ready for a summer of fun! If you have any questions about camp, see Mary Holtzapple! Be sure to check out the Outdoor Ministries website for helpful information as you begin to plan for camp! Scholarships are awarded to ALL who register!!

A CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

INVITATION TO THE CONFIRMAND

PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMAND

QUESTIONS OF THE CONFIRMAND

PRAYER OF THE CONFIRMAND

Pastor: I invite Caleb who comes to be confirmed today to join me in prayer:

Pastor and Candidate: O God, my God, known to me in Jesus Christ, I give myself to you as your own, to love and serve you faithfully all the days of my life. Amen.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION (Parents are invited to join in laying on of hands)
(Family members and friends of the confirmand stand)

WELCOME

Pastor: As members of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, let us express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ:

All: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in the knowledge and love of God and through our service of others be witnesses to the caring and love of our Risen Savior.

GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE Jeff Dieringer, President of the Congregation

A CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Christ is risen! **People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. **People: We lift them up to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place.

People: In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

Leader: On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat, whenever you do this, remember me."

Leader: After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying, "This is the new covenant, remember me."

People: We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again.

Pastor: Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us.

All: Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness. Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Sharing the Meal

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Let us join together in prayer:

All: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

2021 Confirmation Class

*Caleb Ronald Turner
John 10:14*

*Son of Kevin and Amy Turner
Grandson of Lynn and Carol Schmidt*



Ezekiel 36:24-38

24“ ‘For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. 25I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. 28Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.