

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

May 22, 2022 Ascension Sunday 10:30a.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 “O for a Thousand tongues to Sing” arr. Carol Tornquist

INTROIT “Where Two or Three are Gathered”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shout your praises to God, everybody!
People: Let loose and sing! Strike up the band!
Leader: Round up an orchestra to play for God,
People: Add on a hundred-voice choir.
Leader: Feature trumpets and big trombones,
People: Fill the air with praises to God.
Leader: Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause,
People: With everything living on earth joining in.
Leader: Let ocean breakers call out, "Encore!"
People: And mountains harmonize the finale.
Leader: Come, sing to God a brand new song!

*HYMN #652 “This Is the Day” (sing three times)

*UNISON OPENING PRAYER

O God, we open our mouths to praise you and you open our spirits to receive you. We open our minds to learn of your ways and you open our wills to obey you. We open our hands to serve you and you open our hearts to love you. We are open to your mystery, O God, make yourself known in us this day.

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.

(People offer God's peace to those nearby. It can be a handshake, fist bump,
a wave, or whatever you are comfortable with.)

(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!)

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

“Fairest Lord Jesus” Lloyd Larson

ANTEM “When We All Get To Heaven” Eliza E. Hewitt/Dennis Allen

GOD SPEAKS TO US

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS Acts 1:6-14
Luke 24:44-53

SERMON “Look Up Not Around” Rev. Rhonda Hainer

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

HYMN #515 “Hymn of Promise”

BENEDICTION

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

POSTLUDE “I’ll Fly Away” arr. Mark Hayes

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

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 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: jnjl2021@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
 Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodian
 Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
 Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

LiturgistJane Laird
 AcolytesDeacons and Elders
 Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God May 15, 2022
Current - \$2923.00 / Mission - \$190.00
Attendance – 178

We know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. I John 4:16



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio
 May 22, 2022

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



Helping Each other Adjust to Loss

HEAL is the St. Paul’s grief support group led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, who is trained to assist persons in times of loss, struggle, or crisis. The HEAL group meets on the **third Thursday** of each month in the church’s old library (next to the Sanctuary) **at our new time, 1:30 p.m.** This group is open for anyone who is seeking comfort, clarity, and hope for a path forward.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS
Vacation Bible School is three evenings this year and will be held on May 31, June 1 and June 2 from 6p-7:30 pm.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH
One of our 5 for 5 offerings

On Sunday, June 5, Pentecost, we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. This offering builds the UCC’s future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders. And it aids the God is Still Speaking Ministry to spread our message of inclusivity. An envelope for this special offering will be included in your bulletin on that Sunday. This offering is part of our 5 for 5 offering.

Mark your calendar for June 5th

PENTECOST: Sunday, June 5th, is the celebration of Pentecost (the birthday of the Christian Church). That Sunday is a day to *wear red to worship*. Communion will be offered.

SUMMER WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Please note that starting **June 5, 2022**, we will begin our summer worship with **TWO worship times**. Service times will be at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. We will return to our regular worship time of 10:30 a.m. on "Rally Day" Sunday, September 11, 2022. Please take note of the new Summer Worship Time as well as the date for Rally Sunday.

DECORATE THE ALTAR FOR PENTECOST - June 5, 2022

Everyone is welcome to donate RED flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Pentecost. We are going to widen the selection this year and use more than just geraniums! Have your flowers in the Elevette room on Saturday, June 4th by 12:00. The flowers that aren't picked up after church will be planted outside in the flowerbeds.

S.A.R.A. Ukrainian Emergency Fund

Many have asked if there is a way in addition to our prayers that we may provide aid to those who are suffering in Ukraine. The answer to that question is “yes”! The Heartland Conference [S.A.R.A. partnership](#) will serve as a conduit for aid to partners in Ukraine who are suffering as a result of the war. Daily, our partners are bringing food and water relief to displaced Ukrainians in Transcarpathia. Please know that your gifts of any size make a difference in this critical time. Those wishing to make a donation can send it to the following address:

Heartland Conference UCC/S.A.R.A. Ukrainian Emergency Fund
PO Box 1230
Worthington, OH 43085

Luke 24:

F	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y	I	S	K	H
O	D	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	J	W	O
R	E	P	E	N	T	A	N	C	E	C	M
G	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	J	R	L	A
I	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	I	U	O	G
V	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	E	S	T	E
E	D	S	U	F	F	E	R	K	A	H	T
N	Y	I	F	A	T	H	E	R	L	E	E
E	J	N	P	R	E	A	C	H	E	D	M
S	S	G	H	E	A	V	E	N	M	E	P
S	G	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	L	A	L
P	O	W	E	R	K	J	P	H	K	D	E
Christ dead sins Jerusalem Father Bethany homage			suffer repentance preached witnesses clothed blessed temple			rise forgiveness nations promise power heaven praising					

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!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Ann Hudson, Vern Luedeke, Joan Smith, and Gloria Morrison (sister of Joan Smith and Sharon Sullivan). Also, pray for all of our military, medical, 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 **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 (on the bulletin board by the sound board) or call the church office to sign up. Thank you.

**AGAPE HAS ASKED US TO SWITCH OVER TO
BUYING THESE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS:**

Cleaning supplies, toilet cleaner, spray cleaner, shampoo, body wash, small salt and pepper that come together in cardboard container, cooking oil, and brown sugar

Thank you for supporting our Agape Mission
Jane Nuss

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
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread Community Meal
Fri.		Church office closed for a vacation day
Next Sun.	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer



Would you like to help with our shut-ins and those in the nursing home? We are searching for additional volunteers, **BOTH MEN AND WOMEN**, to help with either personal visits, calling or just sending a card. Currently, our volunteers have an assignment of approximately once a month. We would like to get more volunteers to extend that duty to possibly every-other-month. If you are interested, please call the church office at 419-3940-3811 option 3.

Acts 1:6-14 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of ^[a] James. ¹⁴ All

these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Luke 24:44-53 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah ^[a] is ^[b] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses ^[c] of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The Ascension of Jesus

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ^[d] ⁵² And they worshiped him and ^[e] returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple ^[f] blessing God. ^[g]