

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

November 27, 2022 **First Sunday of Advent** **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 *(If you are new among us today, please fill in the Welcome card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate.)*

PRELUDE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. By Heather Sorenson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH “Hope” Members from the Adult Forum

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: This is the Sunday of Hope. Hope is found in the presence of God who is here among us, who lives in us, surrounds us, and holds us in the palm of his hand.

People: We embrace God's presence here, at this moment, in this place.

Leader: Hope is found when God brings people together that need each other, when words are spoken that are deeper than life.

People: We embrace God's wise men and women among us.

Leader: Hope is found when bad suspicions remain unfulfilled, when life is born where death reigned, when love overcomes fear.

People: We embrace the one who brings life.

Leader: Hope is found when people find God and find themselves in God.

People: Lord, speak to us this morning! Amen.

***HYMN #154** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

***UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

Our cry is one of longing, O God, for a restored relationship with you. As we enter the Season of Advent, the longing is at its greatest. It can be hard to find you in our world, yet we believe you

are here with us, renewing all that is broken. Come among us, in flesh, abide with us, that we may witness your presence around us and be filled with a new vision for your world. Amen.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Announcements Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests

ON THE STEPS WITH THE CHILDREN

***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 with whatever you are comfortable with)

HYMN #153 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

SPECIAL VIDEO	<i>"Breath of Heaven"</i>	Amy Grant
----------------------	---------------------------	-----------

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION
"I Wonder As I Wander" John Jacob Niles

HYMN #159 "The King Of Glory Comes"

GOD SPEAKS TO US

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 2:1-5
THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 24:36-44

SERMON: "Keep Awake!" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

HOLY COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

***HYMN #223** "Star-Child"

***BENEDICTION**

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS AND SERVE

POSTLUDE "Soon and Very Soon" arr. Jack Schrader
***Denotes those who are able to are invited to stand in body and in spirit**Depart to serve

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
201 N. PERRY ST., ST. MARYS, OH 45885
(419) 394-3811 (Church Office) (419) 394-8733 (Church Fax)
email: smucc@bright.net website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com
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: jinl2021@gmail.com
email for youth director: youth.stpaulsucc@gmail.com email for media: spmedia@bright.net

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinators
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Brad and Nam Gehrlisch, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music	

LiturgistBrian Speckman
AcolytesMiddle School Youth
Children's offering.....Sunday School Youth
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, November 20, 2022
Current - \$1924.00 / Mission - \$140.00
Attendance – 115

***The altar flowers today are from Arianna Ickes, Savannah Hills, and
Marsha Landers. Wishing everyone a blessed Holiday season.***

CONGREGATION MEETING NOTICE: On Sunday, December 11th, following the children's Christmas program, there will be a Congregation Meeting. At this meeting we will be voting/approving the 2023 Church Budget, 2023 New Consistory Members, and potential change to Article VIII-Consistory of the Constitution of St. Paul's. Information on these three items will be included in your December Communicator. Please plan on reviewing the documents as well as attending the meeting on December 11th.

**O Give Thanks to God, for God's steadfast love
endures forever. -Psalm 107:1**

S.A.R.A. Ukrainian Emergency Fund

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. 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



Samaritan Sisters are planning a dinner out at JT's restaurant on Monday, December 5th at 5pm! We are inviting all women of the church to join us. Please let me know, or you can contact the church office by Sunday, December 4th. Hope to see you all! ~Kris Vanderhorst

NOTICE OF DATE CHANGE:

The HEAL Group that meets on the third Thursday of each month has changed the date for December only. The group will now meet on December 8th at 1:30 pm in the Library

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Annual Women's Advent Breakfast Tuesday, December 6th at 9:30 a.m. in the Auditorium

The women of St. Paul's are cordially invited to come celebrate Advent and join in Christian fellowship. Invite your friends and family.
Please RSVP by TOMORROW, November 28th by calling (419) 394-3115

Name: _____

Advent 1 - Hope

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

advent
Christmas
Jesus
nativity

angel
Gabriel
Joseph
prophets

candle
Hope
Mary
rescuer

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 "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" 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: Carol Schmidt, Bill Wurster, Cheryl Kline, John Hall, Diana Prichard, Shirley Harold, John Long, and Vern Luedeke. 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 and 2023 Altar Flower Charts**, 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 soundboard) or call the church office to sign up. Thank you.

HURRICANE IAN RELIEF: If you would like to make a donation to the Hurricane Ian Relief fund, you can send your donation to the UCC Corporate office at:

**United Church of Christ
Hurricane Ian Relief Fund
1300 E. 9th Street, Suite 1100
Cleveland, Ohio 44114**

Quiet Bags have new fun pages in them for all ages. Hidden pictures, stories to read, some coloring pages. Check them out!

TAKE NOTE: The Children's Christmas Program is December 11th during worship!

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** restroom 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. This is now shown LIVE on Sundays and shown a day later on Mondays.
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **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	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer/1st Sunday of Advent
Tues.	7:00 pm	Caregiver/Heart Support Group Meeting - Library
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	7:00 pm	Advent Midweek Worship Service
Thurs.	6:00 pm	Personnel Meeting
	6:00 pm	Hospice Memorial Service
	7-8:30 pm	Bell Choir practice
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer/2 nd Sunday of Advent

You are invited to the first gathering of the Caregiving from the Heart Support Group to be held at St. Paul's, **Tuesday, Nov 29, 2022 at 7pm in the library**. This is a gathering for any caregivers (and others who are involved) whether you are doing it within your home, within your loved one's home or if your loved one resides in a care facility. It will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman and will be an informal session to support each other, learn from each other and find helpful resources. Any questions, please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935.

Isaiah 2:1-5

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Future House of God

2 The word that Isaiah son of Amos saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Matthew 24:36-44

New Revised Standard Version Updated
Edition

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³⁶ "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son,^[a] but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake; therefore, for you do not know on what day^[b] your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.