

ST. PAUL’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children’s Ministry Coordinators
Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music	Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director	Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Bob Schumacher, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Kim Opperman, Sunday Nursery Supervisor	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Madeline Frankenhauser, Children’s Music Director	Becky Anderson, Church Pianist

LiturgistMarsha Landers
AcolytesConfirmands
Children’s offering.....Mya McDonald and Dylan Winget
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God September 26, 2021
Current - \$3226.00 and Mission - \$75.00
Attendance – 79

There is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to
separate us from the love of God, which is ours through
Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:39

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

October 3, 2021 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m.
World Communion Sunday * 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.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP
WELCOME

PRELUDE Prelude on "Bread of Life" Gordon Young

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Here in this place, God offers us food,

People: so we take and eat.

Leader: Here in this place, our neighbors are hungry,

People: so we share the bread and the cup.

Leader: Here in this place, the table extends

People: beyond our friends

Leader: beyond those who agree with us

People: beyond these walls

Leader: beyond the borders

People: around the world.

Leader: Let us taste and see that our God is good.

People: Let us worship God with joy.

***HYMN 471** "As the Deer"

UNISON OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, you invite us to the table, yet we resist your grace. It is sometimes easier to float around outside of the Christian community than it is to invest fully in it. We put up barriers in places where you long to create circles of love and faith.

Sometimes we simply go through the motions with the bread and cup. Other times we think your gift comes only to us, rather than to Christians, everywhere. We might think we can't come to the table because we don't deserve your love, or pretend we are such good people

we don't need that love. Today on World Communion Sunday, forgive us for these and all our sins, as we continue to pray in silence...

Silent Prayer

In Jesus' name, Amen.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

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

ANTHEM "He Will Be My God" Ann McGowan

ON THE STEPS WITH THE CHILDREN

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!)

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD *DOXOLOGY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

"Communion With God" Franklin Ritter

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS Psalm 19
Mark 8:27-38

HYMN 477 "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

SERMON "Keep In Touch" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

***HYMN 706** "I Come with Joy"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION insert

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Finale" G.F. Handel

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

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, Bill Wurster, Janet Keller, Verneda Fark, Cheryl Kline, John Long, and Harold McCune. Also, pray 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.
- **We need Liturgists!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

New Church Directory! *It's time to update our church family album, and we want you to be a part of it. Photo sessions will be scheduled beginning **October 18th through October 21st.** Please see the flyer included in your Communicator or pick up a copy in the Elevette Room.*

TAKE NOTE: When returning Quiet Bags, please place them in the basket on the floor and NOT on the "trees". Thank you.

- 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!

<u>THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S</u>		
Today	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer/World Communion Day
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	1:00-6:00 pm	Bake Sale/Craft Show (Heritage Hall)
	4:30-6:00 pm	Fall Cafeteria
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer

Fall Harvest Meal tickets are on sale before and after worship today in the Elevette Room. Stop and get your tickets!

FALL HARVEST MEAL

WANTED homemade bake goods for the October 6th Bake Sale which will be held in Heritage Hall from 1:00 to 6:00p. The Fall Cafeteria will be held on October 6th. The time of serving will be from 4:30 to 6:00p. We will be serving scalloped chicken, swiss steak, mashed potatoes, noodles, green beans, and desserts. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Children will be able to get a hot dog, mashed potatoes, noodles, green beans, and desserts. You can eat in or carry out your meals. So, come enjoy fellowship. Proceeds from this annual all-church event (and the Bake Sale) support Women’s Guild activities throughout the year. We hope you will support this meal as you have done in the past. *Tickets are on sale now in the church office.*

THANK YOU to the Sunday School families and the church members for donating to our September bar soap mission project for Agape. The Sunday School families donated 185 bars and the church members donated 435 for a total of 620 bars of soap. The winner is....AGAPE!

AGAPE WARM WINTER COAT DRIVE - NEW & GENTLY USED ADULT & CHILDRENS WINTER COATS & NEW WINTER WATER PROOF GLOVES.

Coat Drive Dates: September 19 – October 30th
Drop off Coats to the Agape Client Services Building from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. If dropping off at AGAPE THRIFT STORE, you must specify it is for the Warm Winter Coat Drive. St. Paul’s will have a barrel set up in the **Elevette Room** for drop off of coats and gloves as well.

BREAK BAGS FOR AGAPE
(see enclosed list of items needed)

The Christian Education and Nurture committee is partnering with Agape to collect food for the December Break Bags. Agape has provided us with the list of food they will need to fill the December Break Bags. Copies of the list of needed items can be found in the **Elevette Room**. The church will not be handing out the break bags this year, only helping to provide the food for them. This will be the mission project for Sunday School for October and November. We are asking church members to help us collect this food. Collection boxes will be placed in the sanctuary, marked Break Bag Food collection. Food collected will be taken to Agape for Agape to fill and distribute the Break Bags. Thank you for your help!

Name: _____

communion

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

disciple	blood and body	cross	priest
prayer	reflection	body	wine
host	communion		

Psalm 19 - God's Glory in Creation and the Law

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament^[a] proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;

⁴ yet their voice^[b] goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens^[c] he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;

⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;

⁹ the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² But who can detect their errors?

Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent;^[d]
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creating God,
even in the midst of such strange times around the world.

You formed us, breathing life into us. When we got ourselves into that first strange time in the
garden,

you clothed us and watched over us as we went out to make our own way.

Your love kept calling us back to you, and sometimes we heard it.

When we stepped into freedom after bondage in Egypt, we were following your love.

Even in the midst of the strange times of famines and illness, injustice and unrest,
you continued to create by speaking love into our hearts through prophets and teachers, pastors
and widows.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join
their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

We praise you for speaking love into and through Jesus Christ.
He knew what it was like to grow up in strange times.
He grew up under the violence of Roman occupation.
He grew up impoverished, experiencing the pain of poverty.
His heart was open to see the way we use religion not to nourish and strengthen,
but to cut down and cover up.
And even though the suffering of the world seemed insurmountable then, just as it does today,
Jesus proclaimed the coming of a world defined entirely by love.
He poured your love over us through healing the sick and eating with sinners,
and he challenged us to love one another and ourselves as you love us all.

Around the world our tables look different and even strange today,
but your Table is always one defined by love.
We love one another even by not partaking of one literal loaf.
We love one another by social distancing our bodies and waving, not hugging.
The first communion meal was a fraught table just as ours is now.
Jesus knew some of his friends would betray him, deny him, and abandon him.
And he nourished them anyway, just as you nourish us in these strange times.

You gave yourself to us in Jesus, pouring love over us, filling us with grace.
You took bread and said:

**“This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”**

You took drink from the vine and said:

**“This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”**

The disciples did not understand.
We do not understand.
But we remember.
May our remembering connect us to you and one another even in such strange times.
So let us proclaim this mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup,
pointing us toward that day when we who are many will partake of one loaf and one cup.
Breathe life and love into us and knit us together, even as we eat distanced from one another.
Make these gifts for us be the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for this broken world the
body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
Though our communion this morning may feel disjointed and strange, nourish us to minister with all
the world until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Child Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Offering of the Cup and Sharing in the Feast

The Prayer after Receiving

Behold: we have experienced a mystery!
Ordinary bread and ordinary fruit become for us nourishing life that can transform even the grief
and fear of these strange times into hope and love. May it be so not just in this meal but each meal.
And may we who have been fed go forth to feed others. Amen.