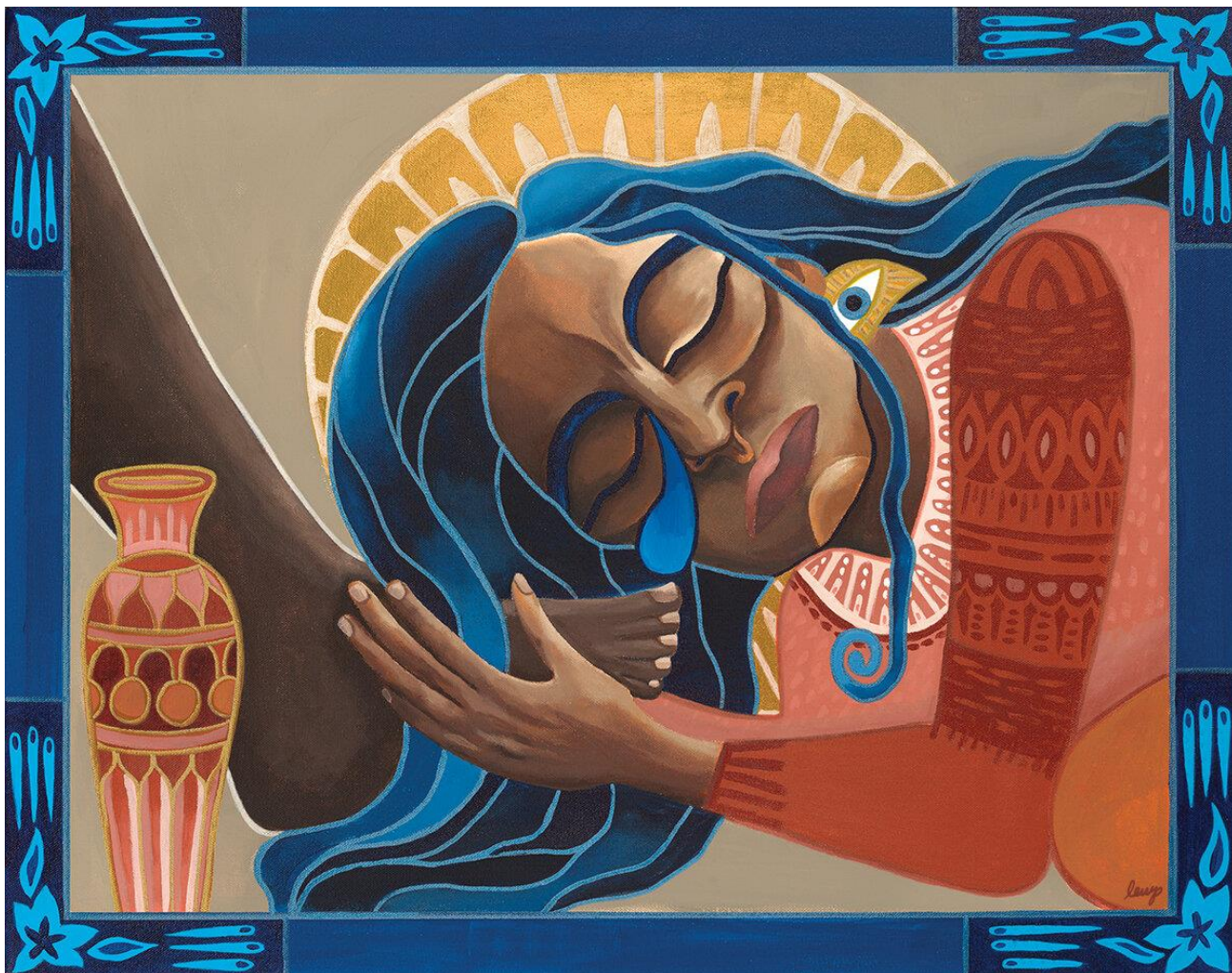


Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

April 3rd, 2022



GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

*NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON
LIFE'S JOURNEY YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*

;

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John J. Ward-Diorio

Pastor Allyssa A. Boyer

Lector: Mary Runkle

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore

Choristers' Director: Jonneke A. Dundore

Assistant Music Director: Mark A. Dundore

Organist: Sarah A. Myers

Assistant Organist: Patrice G. Miller

Ministry of Audio and Video

Jeffrey A. Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Rebecca Drazba

Ushers: Steven Roush, Paula Boyer, Wendy Hayden, Sherry Spencer, Megan Riesmeyer

Nursery: Erin Anderson

Flower Delivery: Joan Moyer

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Please visit the church website at <http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org/> to sign up for Acolyte, Usher, Lector, Volunteer in the Nursery, Deliver the Altar Flowers, and/or Sponsor the Altar Flowers. You will find the individual signup sheets under the "Sign Up" menu heading. Thank you.



St. Paul's Online Giving

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

Website: www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org

Office email: stpaulstaff@outlook.com

John's email: revjohnwd@outlook.com

Allyssa's email: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT; HOLY COMMUNION

April 3rd, 2022

*Please note: the livestream broadcast begins as the Prelude begins.
Please listen in silence as you prepare yourself for Worship. If you do not wish to appear in the
livestream, it is best to sit in one of the back three pews of the Sanctuary.*

*We will not be passing the microphone around.
Please write up any Prayer Requests ahead of time, leave them in the Red Bowl
or give them to the Head Usher. They will bring them forward.*

****Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.***

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

*THE HYMN "When Mary Poured a Rich Perfume"

(to the tune of No. 12, "I Sing the Mighty Power of God")

***When Mary poured a rich perfume on Jesus' weary feet,
Her caring filled that humble room; the fragrance there was sweet.
But full of anger, Judas said, "We could have used this more!
Why was her gift not sold instead and given to the poor?"***

***The Lord replied, "Leave her alone! She bought it for this day.
This caring love that she has shown is faithful to God's way.
The poor will always be with you, but you will not have me."
He blessed her and he thanked her, too, for giving lavishly.***

***O Christ, what can your people bring to show you thanks and love?
You need no fragrant offering; for now you reign above.
Since there will never cease to be the poor throughout the land,
May we, your church, serve faithfully by offering them our hand.***

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***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Generous God, You shared Your whole Self with us as You came into the world in the person of Jesus, so we might better learn how to live as You created us to live. You chose to give Your whole Self and embrace death, so we might know that death is not the final word, resurrection is. New life awaits us all. Guide us so we too might be generous with our lives in service to You. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We recognize there are limits to our generosity. The question or questions we don't often ask have to do with what indeed causes those limits. How much self-interest is involved? How much is really about "wants" rather than needs? How much are we governed by fear rather than love? Let us join in the time for Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

Minister: God forgives us and realizes how hard the giving of oneself in service to others is. God continues to speak to us, guiding us toward what we can offer.

ALL: Let us be honest with ourselves. Let us ask how it is we might be more generous in the offering of ourselves in service. As we take small steps, may we never give up. Amen.

*Please note: we will not be shaking hands or hugging.
If you are able, please rise and greet one another with other signs of Peace.*

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***THE GLORIA PATRI (#759 is the tune, but not all the same words)**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Children are invited to the front at this time. They may sit on the chancel steps, they may sit in the front pews, or they may remain seated with their families. Remember, everyone who comes forward will be on camera. Even though all the worship leaders are fully vaccinated, the person giving the Word for the Young will wear a mask during this part of the service.

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world

Shy and Joyful, Bold and Bright

They are precious in his sight

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so*

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 126

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

John 12:1-8

“Generosity—for now”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (unison)

O Lord, Hear My Prayer



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O



Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

Please note: you can leave your offerings in the plate in the Narthex on your way in or on your way out after Service. You may also place your pew pad sheets in that Offering Plate. Thank you.

THE ANTHEM “You Raise Me Up”

Lovland/Graham

Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

May nothing be worth more to us, O God, than the opportunity to know Jesus Christ, to share in Christ’s suffering, and to know the transforming power of the resurrection. Bless these offerings, that they may bear fruit and Your mission may be accomplished, here and everywhere in the world. Amen.

*THE HYMN “Christ, You Often Sat at Dinner”

(to the tune of No. 332, “God Whose Giving Knows No End”)

*Christ, you often sat at dinner with the outcasts and the poor;
You reached out to every sinner, sharing bread and wine and more —
You proclaimed that God's great table is a joyful, welcome place;
No one wears an outcast label or is turned away from grace.*

*Lord, you blessed a meal and shared it, giving meanings that were new:
"It's my body; take and eat it! It's my blood poured out for you!"
Risen Christ, they knew your presence in the breaking of the bread;
In that meal was God's abundance: All remembered! All were fed!*

*Christ, we know that you are able to bring healing through your cross;
Bring together at your table all for whom you paid the cost.
Though the feasting in your kingdom may still seem so far away,
May we share your meal of welcome as we wait that glorious day.*

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Please note: our ushers will be passing out the Communion Elements on trays to each individual or family unit. You do not need to pass the plates down.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION:

One: God Be with You.

Many: And Also With You.

One: Lift Up Your Hearts.

Many: We Lift Them Up to God.

One: Let Us Give Thanks to God.

Many: It Is Good to Give God Thanks and Praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:

Today we gather both in person and in Spirit.

For those of you present in the Sanctuary, our ushers will be passing out the bread and gluten-free crackers and the wine and white grape juice. They will bring the trays to you. Unless you are sitting with a family unit, please do not pass the trays down but rather give them back to the usher.

For those of you joining us via livestream, we hope you have some bread and wine or juice of your choice before you. We trust that God is powerful enough to extend God's Blessings upon these Communion Elements, even as we and they are scattered in geographic space.

Please hold the elements until all have been served. We will eat and drink them together.

All are welcome to participate. Thank you.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive):

Holy God, we give You thanks for the miracle and wonder of this meal. We give You thanks for Your coming to us in the person of Jesus and for Jesus' willingness to offer his whole self for our benefit. We can see how we can best live our lives. We can believe all "deaths", those losses, endings and struggles in this life, and the ones at the end of our physical lives, are not the final word. We can trust that Your Spirit is within all of us, and always will be. May the gifts of this table always remind us of the gifts You have given us all. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 536 "Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet" (vs. 1, 2, & 4)

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

*THE BENEDICTION

* THE THREE-FOLD AMEN

Please note: the livestream continues until the end of the Postlude.

*Please know you are free to leave following the Three-fold Amen,
and exit to the Narthex to speak with one another.*

Do remember you may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early.

If you choose to remain, please be seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

References:

Cover Image: Pittman, Lauren Wright. Anointed, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57085> [retrieved March 29, 2022]. Original source: <http://www.lewpstudio.com> - copyright by Lauren Wright Pittman.

The Prayer of Dedication is from “Refreshing Rains of the Living Word” by Lavon Bayler, 1988, United Church Press.

The World Peace Prayer is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine nuns.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Barbara Wightman-Freeman, “In memory of Margaret (Peggy) Wightman”

HOLY WEEK Schedule

SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH; 10:30AM

PALM SUNDAY

Morning worship

THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH; 6:30PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Evening meal and worship

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH; 7:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Evening worship

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH; 10:00AM

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH

SUNRISE SERVICE

(6:30AM)

POTLUCK BREAKFAST

(9:00AM)

EASTER WORSHIP

(10:30AM)

With Holy Communion

#536 - Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet (vs. 1,2+4)

Savior, an offering costly and sweet
Mary of Bethany laid at Your feet;
May our love's incense rise Sweeter than sacrifice,
Savior, to You, dear Savior, to You.

Daily our lives would show weakness made strong,
Toilsome and gloomy ways brightened with song;
Some deeds of kindness done, Some souls by patience won,
Savior, to You, dear Savior, to You.

Thus, ever serving You, till eventide
Closes the day of life, may we abide;
And when earth's labors cease, Bid us depart in peace,
Savior, to You, dear Savior, to You.