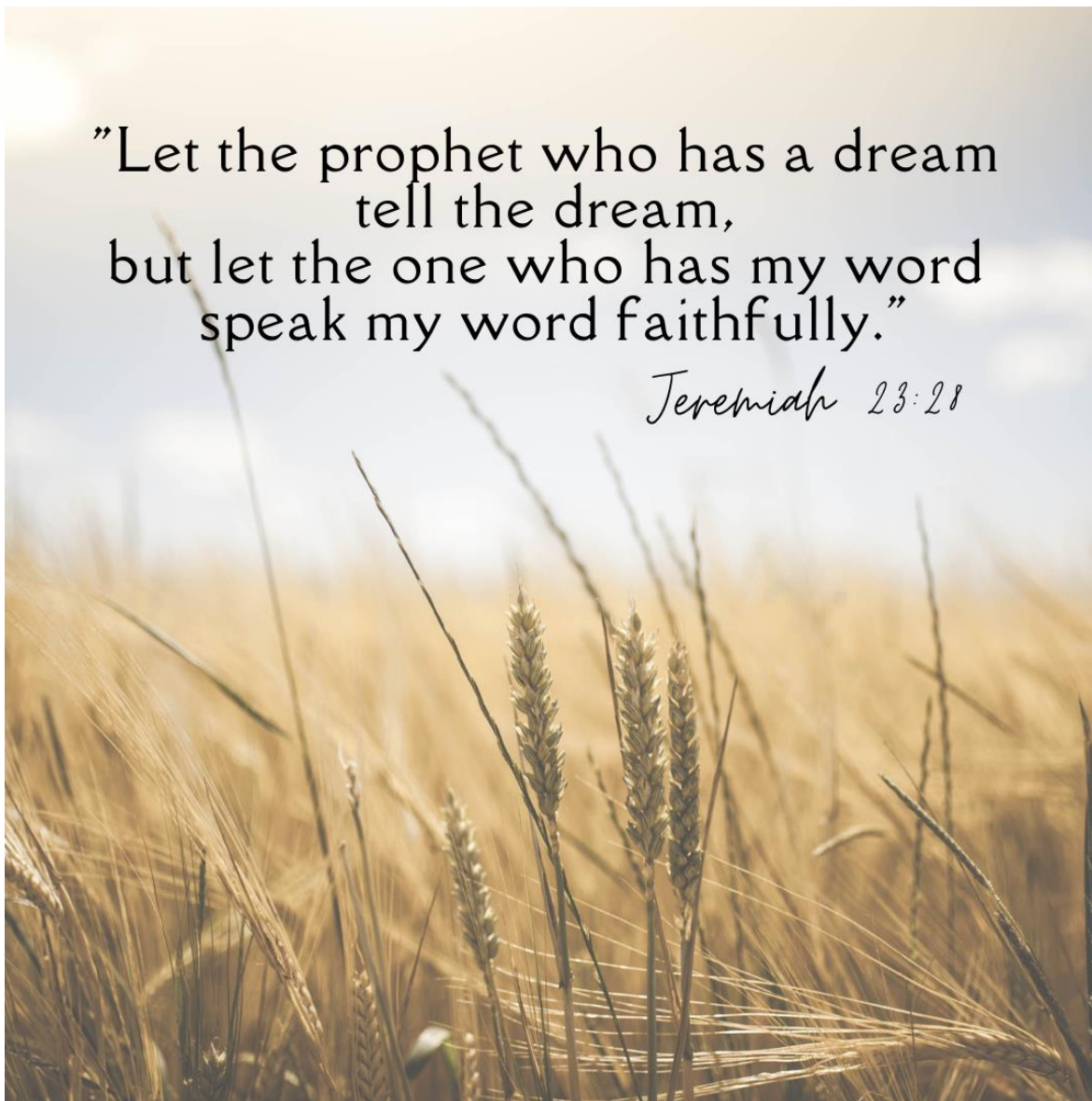


Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

August 14, 2022



"Let the prophet who has a dream
tell the dream,
but let the one who has my word
speak my word faithfully."

Jeremiah 23:28

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: Eric Dundore

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

Worship Welcome Team Leader: Ernie Moyer
Worship Welcome Team: Darryl and Winnie Wentz
Nursery:
Flower Delivery: Darryl and Winnie Wentz

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Please visit the church website at <https://saintpaulsucc-mech.org/> to sign up for Acolyte, Welcome Team, 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 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717/766-7931**

Website: www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org

Office email: stpaulstaff@outlook.com

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Allyssa's email: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

St. Paul's Online Giving

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

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 14th, 2022

Please note: the livestream broadcast begins with the Announcements.

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.

Please write up any Prayer Requests ahead of time, leave them in the Red Bowl or give them to the Welcome Team Leader. 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 "Introduction and Allegro"

G. F. Handel

Please note: we will be singing with our masks in place.

*THE HYMN No. 316 "We Limit Not the Truth of God"
(To the tune of no. 12, "I Sing the Mighty Power of God")

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of truth and justice, help us to sort through the many voices we hear. It is not always easy to separate fact from fiction, especially when fiction is repeatedly spoken and used to manipulate. Guide us in hearing Your Voice amidst all the chatter. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We know that some people in authority will bend the truth or flat-out lie to help their cause. Even God's will can be lied about. We can find it hard to question these folks, or to confront them. We confess that sometimes it is easier to just go along or put aside such untruths, regardless of their consequences. Let us join in the time of Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

Minister: God forgives us and reminds us that God knows what is true and false and does not abide with lying.

ALL: Let us pursue truth, especially when it is hard to do so, remembering God is with us in this pursuit. 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.

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

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS (Unison)

May God's grace be upon these shawls...warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May these mantles be safe havens... sacred places of security and well-being...sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones. May the ones who receive these shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love. Blessed Be!

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 12:1-2

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 5:1-10

*THE HYMN No. 469 "O Grant Us Light"

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

O Christ, by whom we come to God, the Life, the Truth, the Way, The
 path of prayer you too have trod: Christ teach us how to pray.

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 SPECIAL MUSIC "Be Not Afraid"

Dufford

Vocal Duet – Chris Bowers and Eric Dundore

*DOXOLOGY

*From all who dwell beneath the skies,
 Let the Creator's praise arise!
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung.
 Through every land, by every tongue!*

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Gracious God, whose creative energy has filled all heaven and earth with good things for us to enjoy and share, we honor You with our offerings. May the programs we initiate and the outreach we support bear fruits of justice and peace. We look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, as our model in facing all circumstances and giving ourselves for others. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 391 “In the Midst of New Dimensions” (vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5)

*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. You may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early. If you choose to remain, please stay seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE “Trumpet Song”

Lani Smith

References:

The Prayer of Blessing is by Janet Bristow, 2008, www.shawlministry.com

The Prayer of Dedication is from “Gathered by Love” by Lavon Bayler, 1994, 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

Valerie Chapman-Jones, “In honor of Our Formal Wedding Ceremony.”

Allyssa Boyer, “In honor of Paula and Mark Boyer’s 45th Wedding Anniversary.”

A white rose is placed on the altar today in loving memory of Donna Chronister. Please keep her husband Ron, along with all her family and friends in your prayers.

A white rose is placed on the altar today in loving memory of Roger Grice. Please keep his son Dave Grice, Chris, Kateri and Josette in your prayers.

#316 - We Limit Not the Truth of God

To the tune of #12 – “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

We limit not the truth of God to our poor reach of mind,
to notions of our day and place, crude, partial, and confined:
No, let a new and better hope within our hearts be stirred:
O God, grant yet more light and truth to break forth from your Word.

Who dares to bind to one's own sense the oracles of heaven,
for all the nations, tongues, and climes and all the ages given?
That universe, how much unknown! that ocean unexplored!
O God, grant yet more light and truth to break forth from your Word.

Eternal God, incarnate Word, Spirit of flame and dove:
enlarge, expand all living souls to comprehend your love;
And help us all to seek your will with wiser powers conferred:
O God, grant yet more light and truth to break forth from your Word.

#469 – O Grant Us Light

O grant us light, that we may know wisdom that you alone canst give,
That truth may guide us as we go, and virtue bless the lives we live.

O grant us light that we may find where error lurks in human lore.
And turn to you our seeking minds, to love your holy Word the more.

O grant us light, that we may learn how dead is life from you apart,
How sure is joy for all who turn to you an undivided heart.

O grant us light, when soon or late, all earthly scenes shall pass away,
In you to find the open gate, to deathless home and endless day.

#391 - In the Midst of New Dimensions

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways.
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

Refrain

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? *Refrain*

As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams. *Refrain*

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit, resurrect the church again. *Refrain*