

Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

November 10, 2024



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
The Rev. Allyssa A. Boyer
Lector: Paula Boyer

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Eric R. 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

Lead Greeter: Steven Roush
Greeters: Betty and Tom Olsen
Acolyte: Elsa Riesmeyer
Kids' Place: Charles Ricedorf-Reed
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel
Flower Delivery: Mel Shaver-Durham
Counting Team:

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

*Visit the church website, under the 'Sign Up' menu heading,
to help as a Sunday volunteer or Worship Participant.
We're grateful for your generosity.*

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717)766-7931

saintpaulsucc-mech.org

Office: stpaulstaff@outlook.com

Rev. John: revjohnwd@outlook.com

Rev. Allyssa: allyssaboyer@outlook.com



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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

November 10, 2024

The livestream starts with the Announcements. If you'd prefer not to be on camera, kindly choose a seat in the back three pews of the Sanctuary. Leave prayer requests in the bowl in the Common area or give them to the Lead Greeter.

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

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORGAN PRELUDE "Simple Gifts"

Gregg Sewell

CHORAL INTROIT

*THE HYMN No. 565 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Gracious God, we are so grateful for all the gifts You have already given us. Out of love You have freely bestowed them upon us, upon all people. We are blessed that through our Faith, we recognize this. Guide us in our giving back to You through our time and finances. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are used to thinking in human terms like: 'you only get what you pay for.' We believe in myths like: 'everyone gets what they deserve.' Yet we know in reality this is not true for all people. This can make us angry or afraid or both. We wonder what we need to do to get all we want. It becomes harder for us to believe that God has freely given us so much expecting nothing in return, but hoping that we choose to offer ourselves, our service as individuals and through this Community of Faith, in gratitude. We do not always do so. Let us join in a time of Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: God continues to love us. God continues to forgive us. God hopes we choose to live and act together as grateful people, modeling the inclusive love and giving God offers to one and all.

ALL: **Let us commit to honestly giving and doing what we can; trusting that God is with us as we reach beyond ourselves. Amen.**

If you are able, please rise and greet one another with 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.
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

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 17:8-16

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 146

*THE HYMN No. 448 "Take My Life, God, Let It Be"

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

Mark 12:38-44

"Trusting God's Care, Compassion and Love"

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 (unison)



In - to my heart, in - to my heart, come
in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus; come in to - day, come
in to stay, come in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus.

BRINGING OUR PLEDGES FORWARD

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

Please place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate.

THE OFFERTORY “Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

Burroughs

Hand Chimes

*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! Amen.***

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We give in the spirit of Jesus, whose whole life was committed to proclaiming Your love, gracious God. May our lives give evidence that we understand the care and compassion You have for all people, near and far, attractive and offensive, rich and poor. Our offerings today are a token of all the gifts we now invest in the work of Your realm that is forever, with beginnings among us now. Amen.

*THE HYMN “God, We See What You Have Given” (to the tune of no. 332, “As We Gather At Your Table”)

***God, we see what you have given; Signs of grace are everywhere!
All around are gifts from heaven — Gifts enough for all to share.***

**We are stewards of your bounty, Called to give as we've received;
And your blessings have been plenty From the day we first believed.**

(Cont.)

**We are stewards of the richness That you send from heav'n above.
For in Christ, you gave up greatness, Humbly showing us your love.
In a manger — gift from heaven! On a cross — with love and pain!
You proclaimed we are forgiven; Now you send us in your name.**

**We are stewards of your welcome That you showed through Christ the Son.
In his living and his teaching, Jesus welcomed everyone.
To the outcast and the stranger, He showed hospitality!
By your Spirit, may we also Give the welcome we've received.**

**We are stewards, sent out sharing, Offering you our very best.
Through our serving and our caring May we give as we've been blessed.
God of love, may faithful living Be much more than Sunday talk.
Send us loving, serving, giving; Help us daily walk your walk!**

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*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

*The livestream ends after the Postlude. You're welcome to converse in the Narthex after the Three-fold Amen.
However, if you choose to stay for the Postlude, please remain silent until the conclusion.*

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE "God Is Our Refuge and Strength"

Franklin Ritter

References:

The Prayer of Dedication is from "Led by Love" by Lavon Bayler, 1996, 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.

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ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Melissa Cawley, "In memory of Lawrence and Margaret Pamer